

EUGENE Weekly

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December 13, 2007

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Number 50

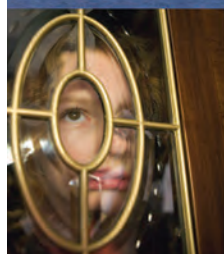
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Between the Covers

page 16

Books to keep you reading late into a winter's night



**THE GOLDEN
COMPASS**

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**SMOKEY & THE
TASER**

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**SWINGING
BALLS**

page 15

ILLUSTRATION BY JIM CARPENTER



Rally to Save Old Growth from the W.O.P.R

The 'whopper' is a BLM plan to increase clear-cutting of old growth trees in our *public* forests by a 'whopping' 700%!

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Nowadays, it's hard to get people to attend a rally. Two of us so much want *YOU* to show up that we paid for this ad. Please attend and note: It's at the *New* Federal Building, not the old!

THE RALLY

(Webster's defines 'Rally' as: 'To summon or bring together for a common purpose; to revive.')

WE CALL FOREST LOVERS TO RALLY
PEACEFULLY AT THIS TIME AND PLACE:

WHEN: Friday, December 21, Twelve Noon to 1:30 p.m.

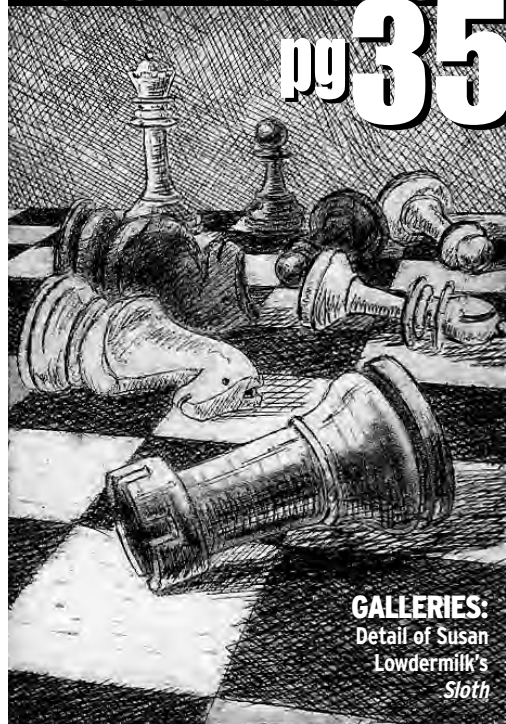
WHERE: The *New* Federal Building in Eugene. (405 East 8th, corner of Ferry and E. 8th. Coming from 7th downtown, when you must turn right or left at the bridge, go right.) Afterward, we invite you to follow us to the BLM building at 2890 Chad, near the intersection of Coburg Road and Chad by Costco, where we will rally from 2:30 to 3:30)

WHAT: The BLM has announced several options for altering their management of our public forest lands. Of those options, they have chosen 'Alternative Two' as their 'preferred option'. That option would increase clear-cutting of old growth trees in public forests by a whopping 700%. Rather than simply rally *against* their preferred 'Alternative Two', we will rally *for* a DECREASE IN THE CURRENT LEVEL OF LOGGING IN PUBLIC FORESTS and an increase of O&C timber money to counties from 50% to 75% to fund our schools.

BEWARE THE COMING BLM FAKE COMPROMISE!

They asked for a 700% increase so that after the public comment period ends they can 'compromise' by offering a lesser increase of 'only' 100%-300%. Write & tell them *no increase is acceptable*: BLM, Box 2965, Portland, OR 97208. To receive a copy of our Counter Proposal to the BLM, write us at:

The Pitchfork Rebellion, Box 160, Greenleaf, OR 97430



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Detail of Susan
Lowdermilk's
Sloth

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MOVIES:
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butterflies
are BFFs in
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Compass*

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WE WILL KEEP DRIVING

I'd like to thank all of the elected officials on the Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC) who voted in favor of the Regional Transportation Plan including the expenditure of funds to expand and improve our vital highway system (cover story, 12/6). This is the kind of forward thinking that we should expect of elected officials. The TransPlan aligns with the views of the vast majority of citizens in the Eugene/Springfield area.

Cars are an important part of our lives, and are they aren't going away. The notion that if we do not improve our road system everyone will start taking the bus or towing a Burley cart behind their bike is silly. Over time, what fuels our cars will change (and reduce or eliminate the global warming emissions) but the car is going to be the key component of transportation for a long time to come. Get used to it.

And spare me the whining about "sprawl." All of the road improvements will serve areas within the urban growth boundary. The Gateway area is not sprawl. It is a major economic/health/service center for our urban area. It happened. Get over it.

And as for Alan Pittman complaining about the lack of "public input," please don't make me laugh. The only input that he and the other so-called "progressives" care about is from folks who agree with them. If the public got to vote — the ultimate participation — the TransPlan would pass overwhelmingly. Of course, if what you mean by public input is the usual set of vocal "progressive" activists, then that would be a different matter.

Randy Kolb
Eugene

A STEP BACKWARD

The staff of *EW* has had a wonderful opportunity to really *listen* to the voices of Latinos and others who are doing important work in this community around justice for immigrants and people of color. If you had opened your ears and your hearts, you would have realized that your decision to run the "¡Ask a Mexican!" column — however well intentioned its author claims to be — is a mistake. You would have listened to the people in this community who have been working the longest and hardest to turn back the rising tide of hatred toward immigrant workers and families, particularly Latino immigrants, that is threatening to engulf this nation. You would have trusted their experience when they told you this column is a step backwards, away from the "progressive" ideals you claim to embrace, and you would have dropped it from your paper.

Not only did you close your ears to respected voices, but you devoted two and a half pages (that might be the most space you've ever devoted to Latinos in a single issue!) to tell us, through the words of the author, how misguided we all are. There must be something wrong with us if we don't respond positively to the sophisticated approach to satire. We should just get over it and get used to it.

Well, I'm sorry, I can't get used to it. Every time I see that racist caricature I feel like I'm looking at a Disney cartoon from the 1950s and it's sickening. And it's not just the caricature; there seems to be a heart missing from Gustavo Arellano's answers. An example from the most recent column: A young woman is concerned about how her tattoos will be perceived by her husband's family in

Mexico. When Arellano approvingly responds that she's "sensitive enough toward backward Mexicans" that she doesn't want to offend them, he appears to be the one saying those Mexicans are "backward," since she didn't use that word, or even appear to characterize them as such. A small point perhaps, but an indicator of a point of view which I don't think is helpful in the political climate we're faced with.

In this coming election year, the immigration issue will be the wedge used to divide us. The wedge issues of the past — abortion, law and order, homosexual rights, the war — don't seem to have the "legs" for the fear mongers to run with. But the specter of millions of brown people flooding across our border ("illegal aliens"!) to take our jobs — now, *that's* an issue to get the good citizens on edge! If *EW* is attempting to speak to this concern, that's good — and there are many local voices who could do it — but using "¡Ask a Mexican!" for that purpose is truly "backward."

Will Doolittle
Eugene

MEXICAN-STYLE FEMINISM

Since there seems to be a sharp bifurcation between how a male Latino thinks and how a Latina thinks, I feel that *EW* should add a Latina column to balance the sometimes over-the-top cutting wit of the Arellano Mexican column.

I think Arellano is doing great and needed work for Eugene to make us more informed and more real about the Mexicans among us who are helping us much more than hurting us. But balance demands a Latina column also.

It's feminism Mexican style.

Bob Saxton
Eugene

DISMISSIVE ATTITUDE

I am writing to say that your tabloid newspaper has lost a longtime reader.

My mother was born to American-born, Mexican migrant workers in the 1940s. She, her brothers and her parents moved to San Antonio, Texas, and lived on the West Side — an area comparable to East L.A. — in public housing, otherwise known as "The Courts." They were poor. My mother eventually got out of that area and moved to a more affluent, white area. However, she never forgot where she came from — the racism, discrimination and economic destitution that plagued her and her family growing up. Keeping her past in personal perspective enables her to still connect to her people when she visits the West Side to visit family. Additionally, it allows her to do so without putting herself or her race down — as the apologist author of "¡Ask a Mexican!" does do.

However, given you and your publication's attitude to dismiss readers who, including myself, are disgusted by seeing the continued publication of "Ask a Mexican," I'm sure that losing a reader of Mexican American descent is of little, if any, concern to you. Your dismissal and egging on of Mexicans, those of Latino descent and other individuals who understand where we are coming from — which is blatantly apparent from the number of letters your newspaper continues to print and your refusal to do anything about it — shows that this is true.

It is an incredible disservice to this community that reads *EW* to continue to publish



this column in two ways: First, it is a disservice to me, Mexicans, those of Latino descent and others who understand where we are coming from. It is blatantly obvious that the column does not accurately reflect Mexicans. Had you had any experience around Mexicans — other than reading "¡Ask a Mexican!" — you would understand this. Secondly, continuing to run the column is a disservice to the community members who have little, if any, direct and regular contact with Mexicans. Perpetuating misrepresentation does not improve the lives of those already being targeted in this country with racism, discrimination and an increasing rate of hate crime — particularly in an area where Mexicans are such a minor population percentage. Again, continuing to run this column shows you don't understand.

It seems that letters to the editor over the past weeks haven't done anything to have this column removed. If targeting your advertisers is the only way your tabloid newspaper will listen and have it removed, so be it.

Jonathan O. Bowers
Eugene

JUST CHILL OUT

I must admit to being bemused at all the hate mail for "¡Ask a Mexican!" I don't get it. "Savage Love" plays on stereotypes as strongly as "¡Ask a Mexican!" and yet no protests there. I guess we are conditioned to gay stereotypes so it's OK. Anyway, I have learned some things about Latino culture from the column, and it seems like the dialogue it has created is at least healthy. So I hope you keep it on.

Hard to believe that here in Eugene we want to actually censor a voice. Everyone should just chill out and move on.

Janice Sunseri
Eugene

POINTLESS DEATH

Since the tragic, needless death of Lucy Lahr, I have read many reports about the mishap and tributes to Lucy. However, no one seems to be talking about how to prevent such deaths. I am reminded to question why we tolerate a transportation system which causes the death of nearly 50,000 people a

year in the U.S. Our system is not only destructive to life and property, but it also excludes the poor, the young, the elderly and the physically or mentally limited.

Would a general strike against our current system (quit driving cars) increase ridership in public transit and increase service to benefit the excluded? What effect would giving the 50 cents a mile we expend on self-transport to collective transport systems have? Activists, get active with transport choices!

Ed Gunderson
Creswell

OUTSOURCE IT

With Angel Jones declining to seek the city manager position on a permanent basis, I think the next step for Eugene is fairly obvious. We can save much time and effort by directly contacting human resources at Hynix and asking them to go ahead and hire for the position. With our perpetually uncertain and compromised tax base, this type of outsourcing will only make more and more sense as time goes on.

Gordon Kenyon
Eugene

SPORTSPORK FOR NIKE

EW often contains articles referring to itself as "watchdog" journalism, and proudly features news about recent awards. That's great. With that in mind, would you please drop your endless global whining junk science hysteria reporting and take a long, detailed, focused look at the largest, porkiest sports arms race project(s) currently spiraling out of control?

If your writers aren't ready or able, then hire some who are better or more motivated. These days it really seems *EW* stands for "Enablers Weekly" as you ignore annexation by Nike Corporation of land and properties in Eugene.

Meanwhile in Salem, Frohnmayer and Nike are spare-changing the governor and Legislature for a \$200 million loan to prop up this Trojan Horse "smart growth" project.

EW, stop drinking Nike's green and yellow Kool-Aid and get to work.

Zachary Vishanoff
Eugene

TOOL FOR TORTURE

I have watched a number of the online videos of Taser guns being used on people, and there are some obvious problems. It is claimed by those who have tested the devices that they are "safe." It is also claimed that their use is for subduing suspects who are resisting arrest. This all sounds good, for it is probably better than the old means of subduing a suspect through use of fists, boots and clubs.

However, videos of them being used reveals that they are not being used only as intended but are being used indiscriminately. One video shows a man getting zapped simply because he was shooting a video of an alleged illegal search. The female officer walks over to the guy with her Taser gun, he says something about not being involved and not to Taser him, she zaps him and he lets out a scream due to several seconds of 50,000 volts.

In one video, a man was mouthing off to the cops when they zapped him. I could not see whether or not he was struggling with them physically. After being zapped, he lets out a scream and falls to the floor. After they handcuff him, you can then hear some officer repeatedly screaming at him to get up and zapping him a few more times. He just lies there until two guys drag his limp body from the room.

There is also the video of the very large cop trying to arrest a drunken woman perhaps half his size. When she won't get out of the car, he zaps her. After she falls out of the car and tries to get up, he orders her to get down. She is totally disoriented and tries to crawl on the ground, so he zaps her a few more times. When she is finally in his patrol car, she is struggling and kicking, so he zaps her again.

What is very obvious here is that cops are not using the Taser guns only to subdue suspects, but to punish people for not obeying orders or for doing something that irritates the cops.

With their already well-established reputation of abuse and lack of control by our mayor and police chief, the Eugene Police Department certainly should not be allowed to start using Taser guns.

*Wayne Pierce
Eugene*

A FINAL EXAM

Bill McKibben's summary of the Kyoto/climate change situation (cover story, 12/6) was right on, and I particularly liked his last paragraph, where he asserted, "It's a test, a kind of final exam for our political, economic and spiritual systems. And it's a fair test, nothing vague or fuzzy about it. Chemistry and physics don't bargain. They don't compromise. They don't meet us halfway. We'll do it or we won't. And 10 years from now, we'll know which path we chose."

In addition to chemistry and physics, there is a portion of this "test" he failed to mention. Population pressure doesn't bargain either. Governments must agree to TALK about overpopulation. EVERY nation, (including especially the U. S.) which is where control and sovereignty resides on this issue, needs to immediately establish a national population policy designed to stabilize population at a level/range deemed sustainable for the long-term future. If we fail to include this in our schemes to address climate change, population-pressure demands will override whatever gains we might achieve.

Without this inclusion, 10-20-30-50 years from now, we will still be wondering, "What went wrong, and why can't we solve this problem?"

*M. Boyd Wilcox
Corvallis*

NO INSULTS INTENDED

In my recent letter I noticed that your editing staff changed the phrase "white-bred" to "white-bread." Your correction was not what was intended and I do not make mistakes when writing out a colloquialism.

Also, I wish to apologize to the staff of the Bier Stein for any perceived hostility. I will continue to buy lunch and beer from your fine establishment. No insults were intended.

*Justin Bengtson
Eugene*

CIVILIZATION AT RISK

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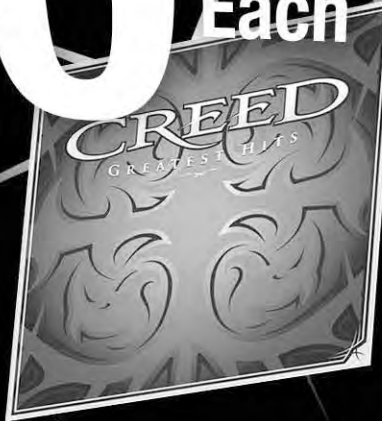
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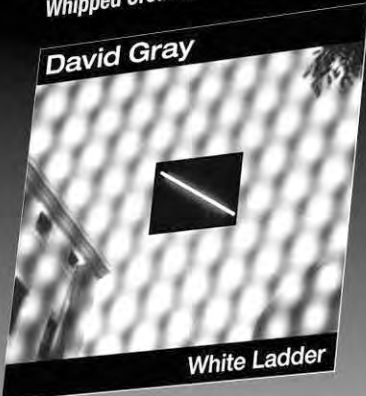
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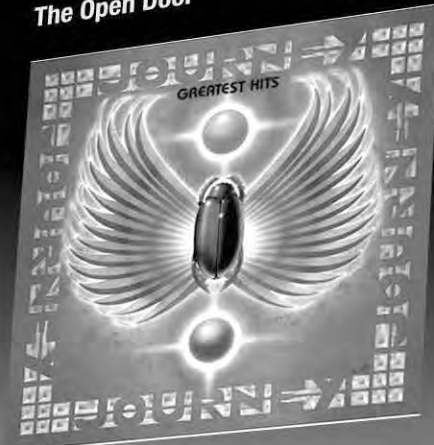
David Gilmour
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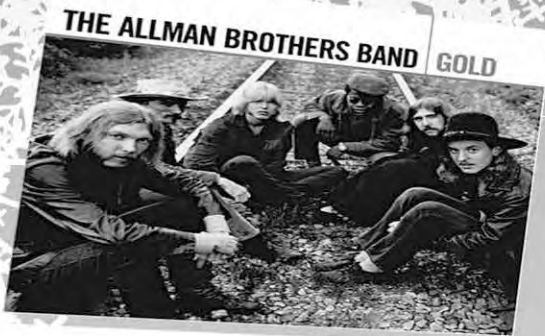
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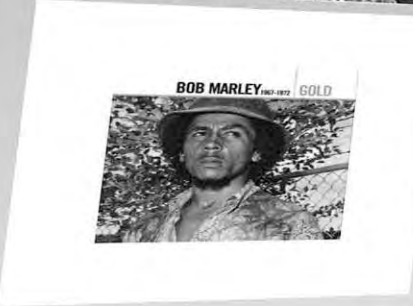
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LETTERS

tion are now at risk of collapse. Thus our entire civilization is at risk of collapse and a community's future survival may depend on essential local resources that are available to it.

Here in the Northwest, the intact native forests and what they provide for us (clean water, salmon, soils and carbon storage biomes like no other) are going to be our lifeboats on a sinking ship.

Now, when some agency like the Oregon Bureau of Land Management is damaging and destroying these lifeboats, they are threatening the future survival of our community as well as the survival of our own families.

However, if the BLM, Forest Service, Oregon Board of Forestry and Oregon's timber barons enact ecological based restoration

on ALL the lands they have damaged instead of continuing the destruction and poisoning they are currently perpetrating, we may consider them benign. They are unlikely to do this voluntarily however.

Any entity or individual who threatens the survival of our community or our family now or into the future must be stopped, reversed or abolished. If our U.S. representatives, senators, governors and other elected officials don't understand how dire the current situation is and are not actively opposing the destruction and preparing communities for the inevitable hardships, then they need to be removed from office.

Shannon Wilson
Eugene

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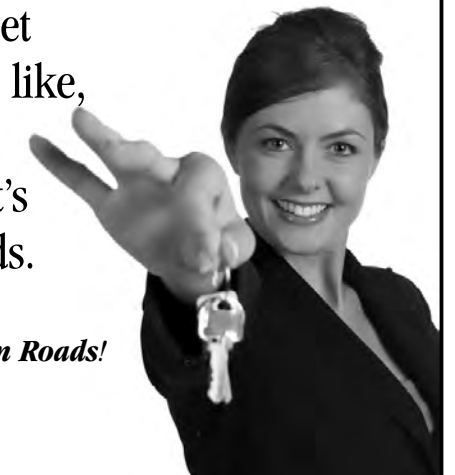
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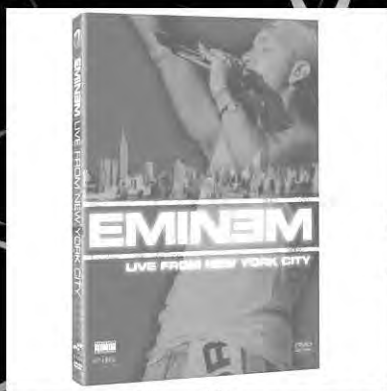
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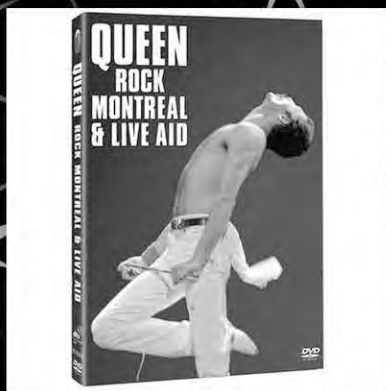
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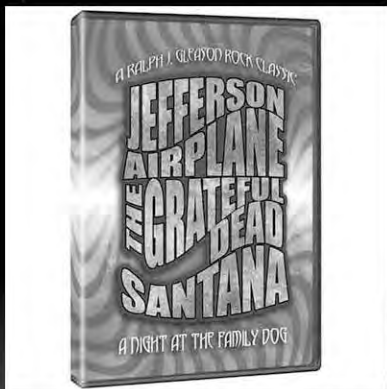
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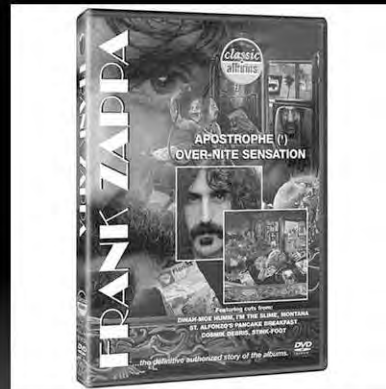
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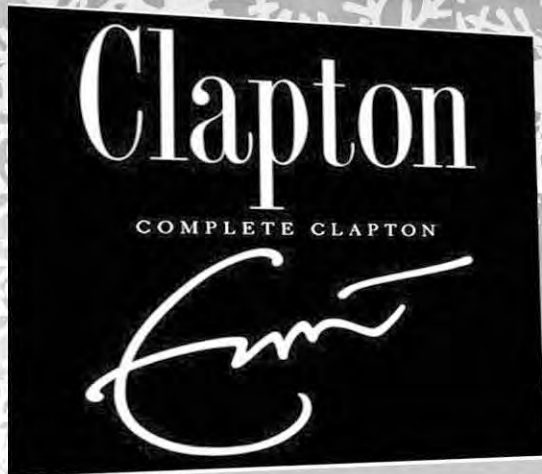
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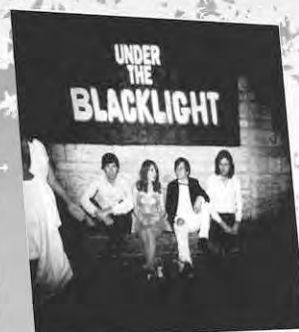
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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



news Briefs

HUGE ROAD TAX DESPITE NO VOTE?

After voters slammed a \$2 million a year pothole repair tax in the last election, the city council has turned around and plans to ask voters for a \$8 million a year pothole tax in May.

The new tax, a 10-year, \$81 million bond paid by property tax increases averaging \$109 per home owner, would be the largest tax increase in the city's history.

The property tax increase has been pushed by the Eugene Chamber of Commerce and council conservatives. Business interests pushed the property tax as a substitute for an earlier proposal for a tax on parking spaces that would have shifted more of the tax burden from home owners to big box stores that generate high road use.

Ironically, the conservative councilors who are the strongest backers of the pothole tax have some of the most anti-pothole tax constituents in the city.

Voters in Councilor Jennifer Solomon's Ward 6 in Bethel voted 78 percent against the gas tax for potholes on the November ballot. In Councilor Mike Clark's north Eugene Ward 5, 64 percent opposed the tax increase for roads. In Councilor George Poling's northeast Eugene Ward 4, 63 percent opposed the tax increase for roads. Solomon, Clark and Poling won their seats in largely unopposed elections.

Overall, 56 percent of voters opposed increasing taxes to pay for road repair. But on the council, support for the bigger tax in-

crease appeared unanimous.

To pass the big tax, "we as a city council have to be behind it 100 percent," said Councilor Chris Pryor. Pryor argued that more voters will support a property tax than a gas tax. "A bond measure to rebuild streets is more clear and more persuasive than a gas tax."

But Councilor Alan Zelenka said the failure of the gas tax is a good gauge of how the larger property tax may fair. "The gas tax is very analogous here." — Alan Pittman

LAS POSADAS IN EUGENE

From Christmas to Solstice to Hanukkah to the Islamic *Eid ul-Adha*, December is the month of festivals. If you want to branch out beyond sitting on Santa's lap and demanding gifts this year, there are a couple of places in Eugene where you can go and experience the traditional Mexican Christmas celebration of *Las Posadas*.

Las Posadas traditionally takes place over nine nights and reenacts Mary and Joseph's search for an inn (*Las Posadas* in English is "the inns") in which Mary could give birth.

Each night a party is held and each night the *peregrinos* (pilgrims), carrying candles and figurines of Mary and Joseph, come to the door and sing, requesting lodging. After the *peregrinos* have been turned down at two houses, they are allowed in at the final house and evening ends with singing and the breaking of *piñata*.

The celebration takes place from Dec. 16-24, and on the final night, Christmas Eve, an image of the Christ child is carried in. The nine-day celebration is said to have been introduced by Catholic missionaries in 1587 not only to celebrate the birth of Christ but to replace the Aztec celebration of the birth of the war and sun god Huitzilopochtli that took place in December.

To celebrate *Las Posadas* in Eugene, go to the Gather Room at Oak Hill School at 6

• Saving the **Amazon Creek headwaters** continues to swim upstream against city staff and conservative opposition. Corporate PR person Liz Cawood and Councilor and Republican political operative Mike Clark recently sought to torpedo protecting the natural area by apparently publicizing inflated numbers from confidential city property appraisals. It's amazing that the majority of local elected officials support saving the natural area from development, but staff and conservative activists have stymied preservation for more than a year. So much for democracy.

• Angry armed men are on the prowl in Eugene demanding huge amounts of money from citizens. Local residents are advised to hold tightly to their park, planning and library budgets lest the **Eugene police** make off with even more of their cash to dramatically increase cop numbers despite falling crime rates.

• That was **Pat Farr** at Rob Handy's press conference last week in the Lane County Courthouse (see News Briefs last week). State Sen. Vicki Walker introduced and strongly endorsed Rob as the candidate to boot Bobby Green off of the County Commission in 2008. Handy spoke of his experience as a small businessman, neighborhood advocate, environmentalist and fiscal conservative, taking the opportunity to poke at several soft spots in the county ledgers.

Republican Farr stood out in the crowd dominated by Democrats, including Mayor Piercy. Farr now works for Republican political operative Rick Lindholm, whom Green previously employed to gerrymander his district.

• **Looking ahead:** With Tom Kemper pulling the plug on his downtown Eugene redevelopment plans, will LCC end up with a new building downtown? It could be cheaper to convert a building to LCC classrooms and offices rather than plumbing-intense residential use. Might there be some other civic uses for downtown buildings currently under city options? UO student housing would be great downtown, and those kinds of public projects don't rely on commercial banking.

At the county, relocating the fairgrounds will likely be a big issue in 2008 along with routing LTD's EmX bus through west Eugene. Every proposed route has problems. Will LTD try to run the route on new pavement along parts of Amazon Creek? More budget cuts coming at the county level? Restoring federal funds for counties remains a crap shoot, and a bad roll could mean 20 percent cuts at the county.

At the state, big battles over Measure 47 implementation are brewing despite the legally specific language in the measure. And of course the 2008 general election ballot will be staggering. We'll be picking a president, lawmakers, councilors and mayor and probably voting on 20 state measures. Some reasonable-sounding but insidiously destructive antigovernment initiatives are certain to make it on the ballot with the hope that voters will not be paying attention.

• A small but hardy group of adventurers showed up on the stormiest day of the year Dec. 2 to **attempt a hike into Devil's Staircase**. Our outdoors writer James Johnston organized the expedition to the remote and nearly inaccessible Wassen Creek waterfalls in the Coast Range. He's been wanting to familiarize people with an environmentally sensitive area targeted for logging under the Western Oregon Plan Revisions (WOPR). The group carpooled two hours to the trailhead and took off on foot, he says, but soon turned back amid crashing trees and flying branches. Later that day a landslide closed the highway they had traveled. Johnston says the hike will be rescheduled, probably in early spring. Visit northforkphotos.com/wassenotes.html for more information and to get on Johnston's email list.

• Cable TV is now running **The Day After Tomorrow**. Remember this 2004 flick? Millions of Americans die in an apocalyptic ice age triggered by global warming. The movie on TV has commercial breaks, and guess what's being advertised between scenes of mass destruction? You guessed it: SUVs and big vans with multiple DVD players. After all, we will need four-wheel drive rigs to escape the coming catastrophe.

• We're happy to report that the **EW: A Blog!** (blogs.eugeneweekly.com) is getting some attention. What's on EW A Blog! these days? Check out Taser-ing pregnant women, Albertsons' weird new plastic bag policy, "dens of inequity" vs. "dens of iniquity" and "Aliens, brothels and Chuck Norris." The hits keep coming.

SLANT includes short opinion pieces, observations and rumor-chasing notes compiled by the EW staff. Heard any good rumors lately? Contact Ted Taylor at 484-0519, editor@eugeneweekly.com



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pm Monday, Dec. 17. The event is free, but donations will go to aid flood-damaged Tabasco, Mexico. For more information call Armando Morales at 744-0954. The event is put on by Oak Hill in conjunction with Adelante Si, the *Dirección de Atención a Comunidades Guanajuatenses en el extranjero* and other organizations.

You can also attend a free choral *Posadas* sung in Spanish and English, followed by fiesta and breaking of piñata at 5 pm Dec. 16 at the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection. Call 686-8462. — *Camilla Mortensen*

KERWOOD A FINALIST

Lorraine Kerwood, founder and director of NextStep Recycling in Eugene, is a finalist in the Volvo for Life Awards, and could win big bucks for her nonprofit — if enough people vote for her online before Jan. 7.

Kerwood is one of 10 community “heroes” nominated and selected in the environ-



Lorraine Kerwood

WAR DEAD

Since the U.S. invasion of Iraq began on March 20, 2003

(last week's numbers in parentheses):

- **3,882 U.S. troops killed*** (3,876)
- **28,451 U.S. troops injured*** (28,451)
- **130 U.S. military suicides*** (130)
- **306 coalition troops killed**** (306)
- **933 contractors killed** (accurate updates NA)
- **84,779 to one million Iraqi civilians killed***** (84,250)
- **\$473.9 billion cost of war** (\$471.9 billion)
- **\$134.7 million cost to Eugene taxpayers** (\$134.2 million)

* through Nov. 12, 2007; source: *icasualties.org*; some figures only updated monthly

** estimate; source: *icasualties.org*

*** highest estimate; source: *iraqbodycount.org*; based on confirmed media reports; other groups calculate

ment category. Other categories are for safety, quality of life and “butterfly” — Volvo’s youth category.

The top vote-getter in each category gets \$100,000 for his or her nonprofit, and runners-up get \$25,000. One overall winner in

PIERCY TO RUN AGAIN FOR MAYOR

Mayor Kitty Piercy announced this week that she will seek a second term as Eugene’s mayor, saying “I love this city and have enjoyed working hard during my first term to set the stage for Eugene’s future.” Piercy’s announcement was expected, and Eugene politicians have already been meeting to see who might oppose her in 2008.

Piercy is optimistic about Eugene’s future and says she wants to continue the programs she has instigated or supported. “Our local economy is healthy; our housing market is experiencing fewer downturns than many across the country; citizens are engaged in the community; and people have expressed to me that, for the first time, they know the doors of City Hall are open to them,” she said in a prepared statement.

Piercy has pushed for green jobs and sustainable practices. The Mayor’s Sustainable Business Initiative, adopted by the City Council, is designed to support and encourage the growth of businesses that use sustainable products and practices.

She said that in her second term, she will “keep the community engaged in downtown revitalization efforts to achieve a community-approved solution, and will continue efforts to advance arts and culture as visitor attractions and contributors to Eugene’s economic vitality.” She said she also intends to move forward on human rights issues, such as enacting recommendations from the Mayor’s Blue Ribbon Committee on Homelessness and establishing a Youth Advisory Board.

During her first term, Piercy participated in more than 6,400 meetings and community gatherings. She meets regularly with citizen groups representing diverse interests.



MANAGER PICK BY SMOKE PUFFS

The Eugene City Council has yet to decide whether or not it will make one of its most important decisions in secret.

City Human Resources Director Lauren Chouinard said the council is “undecided” on whether they will release a list of finalists for the city’s powerful city manager position. “They haven’t discussed that.”

The council has been meeting behind closed doors in executive sessions for the last several months to select a new city manager. Many cities, including Springfield, publicly announce the top finalists for the job before making the decision.

But in 2003, Eugene hired former City Manager Dennis Taylor in a secret meeting without publicly announcing any other finalists.

The secrecy surrounding the selection drew widespread criticism. A *Register-Guard* editorial compared the council’s secrecy to cardinals announcing the selection of the pope with puffs of smoke. “Eugene residents deserve to know who is being considered as finalists for the critical position of city manager,” stated the editorial.

Some councilors and staff have expressed concern that candidates may not apply if they think the cities where they work now will find out they’re looking for another job. But many other cities release lists of top candidates. Besides Springfield’s selection in 2005, other examples include Cincinnati, Ohio and Federal Way, Wash. Lawrence, Kan. publicly announced that Dennis Taylor was a finalist there in 2006.

Bob Neher, the recruiter the city hired to find a new manager, said that it’s up to the council whether or not a list of finalists is released to the public for scrutiny and comment. In any case, after finalists come to town for interviews and risk being seen, they will already know that their interest in the position may become public, according to Neher. “At that point we inform the candidates it can no longer be kept confidential.”

Councilors have repeatedly called the city manager selection one of the most important decisions they will make as elected officials. Eugene’s city managers have seized enormous power over city government. They rule over a staff of 1,400, a budget of \$300 million and city assets of a half a billion dollars. They control all contracts, hiring and firing, disciplinary action, promotions, audits, legal interpretations and information coming out of city government.

Chouinard said the council has so far narrowed down 78 applicants to 11 candidates in its closed-door meetings. He said that on Dec. 18 the council plans to decide on the top few finalists to interview and will conduct those interviews on Jan. 11 and 12. — *Alan Pittman*

TASERS IN THE TREES

Is Smokey Bear going to start zapping tree sitters? Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER) recently revealed that the U.S. Forest Service purchased over half a million dollars worth of Tasers and “related accessories.”

The Forest Service right now is so short of cash that it lacks the funds to create new timber sales. According to a November AP article, the USFS didn’t anticipate the housing slump would result in a drop in lumber prices. Some of their timber sales have gone without bids. Without selling public timber, the USFS can’t plot timber sales and plan the environmental reviews necessary to log, according to the article.

However, the Forest Service was able to come up with \$600,001.52 in funds to buy the Tasers, according to records obtained by a Freedom of Information Act request by PEER. The agency purchased 700 of the devices, enough to equip every USFS special agent and law enforcement officer with a stun gun, says PEER.

TASER International proudly announced the sale in a Sept. 19 press release, stating, “We are excited about this new additional federal agency purchasing TASER technology to protect life.”

According to the TASER International release, the U.S. military has signed a five-year indefinite delivery indefinite quantity (IDIQ) contract with TASER International and has seen a “marked increase” in purchases by federal agencies.

News media across the country have reported the Taser of pregnant women and handcuffed and restrained suspects (see video on blogs.eugeneweekly.com this week). In 2005 alone, 61 people died after being Tasered.

The Forest Service has not actually begun to use the Tasers. USFS Director of Law Enforcement and Investigations John Twiss, the official who authorized the purchase, said in a letter to PEER that the agency is currently developing the training for agents to use the electronic control devices.

Executive Director Jeff Ruch commented in the PEER press release, “As a result, in addition to the howl of the coyote and the hoot of the owl, the plaintive cry of ‘Don’t tase me, bro’ may soon echo through the forest night.” — *Camilla Mortensen*



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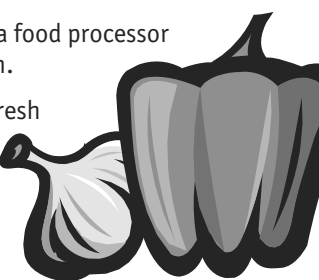
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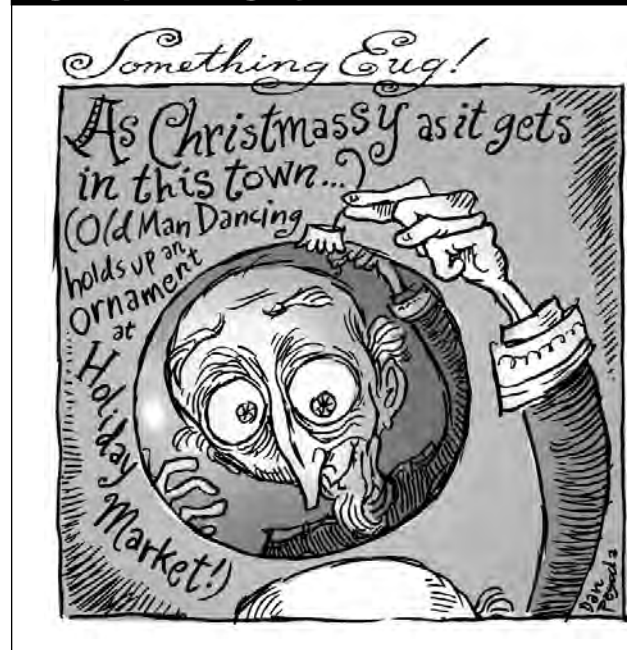
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news Briefs



ward by MoveOn.org. The Eugene action is one of 330 events from Oregon to Maine that have been planned to deliver the petitions to Congress.

"Last week, a White House intelligence report was released that proved Iran stopped developing nuclear weapons in 2003 — yet Bush is still hyping war with Iran," says Michael Carrigan of CALC, one of the organizers of the Eugene action. "He's ignoring intelligence and misleading

the contest will also win a new Volvo every three years for as long as he or she lives.

"Under Lorraine Kerwood's leadership, NextStep has recycled more than 1,000 tons of waste and refurbished over 11,000 computers and other electronic devices," reads a statement on the Volvo for Life website. "Most importantly, Lorraine ensures that many disadvantaged children today get the opportunities that she did not have when growing up."

More information about Kerwood and NextStep can be found at volvo-for-lifeawards.com. Click on the "Environment" category to vote for one of 10 finalists.

the public — the same tactics that got us into the mess with Iraq. Congress needs to take action and make crystal clear that the president doesn't have congressional approval to start a war in Iran."

Activists will meet with a DeFazio staff representative to thank the congressman for his ongoing and steadfast opposition to a U.S. military strike against Iran and to urge him to support HJR 64, sponsored by Rep. Neil Abercrombie (D-Hawaii). This resolution clarifies that the 2002 Authorization for the Use of Military Force Against Iraq or any other previous legislation or resolution does not justify, allow or authorize military action against Iran.

An identical resolution was introduced in the Senate by Sen. Barack Obama.

"With Senate passage of the Kyl-Lieberman amendment supporting the use of our military to roll back Iran's influence in Iraq, and given President Bush's evident belief in an 'imperial presidency,' defining terms is certainly prudent," Abercrombie said in a prepared statement. "Sen. Obama and I agree that immediate action is needed that leaves no room for the administration to use military force against Iran without the specific authorization of Congress."

PETITION GOES TO DEFAZIO

A petition to "Stop Bush's War with Iran" with the signatures of 1,180 constituents will be delivered by local residents to the office of Rep. Peter DeFazio at noon Thursday, Dec. 13. More than 160,000 people nationwide have signed the petition, which was put for-

Happening people BY PAUL NEEVEL

HALEY WHITLEY

After graduation from Seattle University in 2006 with degrees in psychology and Spanish, Haley Whitley took a vacation in Pavones, Costa Rica, a remote town with many foreign residents. "There's an amazing surf break there," says Whitley, who had visited an aunt in Pavones when she was a junior at South Eugene. "I bought a beat-up surf board and fell in love with it." When her funds ran out, Whitley stayed on and made ends meet by tutoring home-schooled kids in English and offering community classes at a local school. "No one was teaching English," she says. "Whatever I could provide was better than what they had. My biggest class was 15 people, ages 10 to 50." Before she returned to Eugene in June of '07, Whitley and her college friend Raphael Weber, an ESL teacher, had founded Escuela Camino Claro, a community education center. While Weber keeps classes going, Whitley is in Eugene planning an ECC fundraiser for Feb. 9 at the Fenario Gallery, with music by Kudana and members of Reeble Jar, local wine and beer and a silent auction. Learn about ECC at caminoclaro.org



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††DIRECTV received the highest numerical score among cable or satellite providers in the Western U.S. in the proprietary J.D. Power and Associates 2007 Residential Cable/Satellite TV Satisfaction Study.™ Study based on responses from a total of 17,033 consumers and measuring 8 providers in the West (AZ, CA, CO, IA, ID, MN, MT, ND, NE, NM, NV, OR, SD, UT, WA, WY) and measures opinions of consumers who subscribed to a satellite or cable provider. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of consumers surveyed in April 2007. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpower.com.

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news BY CAMILLA MORTENSEN

Some Trees Go To Heaven

Logged urban trees can have happy endings

EDITOR'S NOTE: This story is a follow-up to our cover story on Eugene's urban forest Nov. 21.

Arborists and city workers in Eugene have been cleaning up fallen trees and limbs and checking out possible arboreal hazards all over Eugene following the Northwest's early December storm. Many urban trees wind up as wood chips or firewood, but some trees get reused in local art and architecture.

The city of Eugene has a contract with Buena Vista Arbor Care for removal of street trees. Removed trees are first offered to wood carvers or other people who want to recycle it into art or sculpture, says Pricilla Esplin of Buena Vista. If no one wants the tree, it's made into firewood for community members who need it.

The wood from trees such as black walnut, oak, maple and other high quality hardwoods can sell for thousands of dollars, but there is no real market for urban trees, as they are more prone to having foreign objects like nails in them that could damage a saw blade. Urban trees also come to the market more randomly than those from a full-scale logging operation, making them difficult to sell. But urban trees can still be valuable.

Kurt Hupé calls himself a wood artist and a tree salvager. When he finds out that one of



Trellis made by Pony Gilbert

that are going to be cut down to make way for a building and turns them into a part of that building.

"The wood didn't come from a tree plantation, the National Forest or the Brazilian rainforest," he says. For owners who are often upset when an urban tree needs to be cut, it's a way to not waste the wood or per-

'The wood didn't come from a tree plantation, the National Forest or the Brazilian rainforest.'

— PONY GILBERT,
 LONG TOM CUSTOM
 SAWMILL



Bowl by Kurt Hupé

Eugene's street trees is due to be logged and the owners don't want to keep it for themselves, he asks for pieces of the tree to salvage and make into bowls and sculptures. He says recycling urban trees is a "gift economy" with the wood being exchanged for his art. Some of the art he gives back to the property owners, many of whom had emotional attachments to the trees.

When a bigleaf maple in front of the PeaceHealth Nurse Midwifery Birth Center was declared a hazard and had to be removed, Hupé offered to turn the wood into "placenta bowls" to give back to the center.

Hupé was inspired to begin recycling the urban forest by Don Colt, owner of Scotty's Hardwood. Scotty's Hardwood, like Springfield's Urban Lumber Company and London Lumber Inc. of Cottage Grove, recycles the urban forest into everything from coffee tables to fireplace mantles.

Pony Gilbert, who owns and operates the Long Tom Custom Sawmill, takes urban trees and mills them onsite into just about anything the property owner wants, keeping "the unique shapes and designs" of the natural wood. He takes hazardous trees or trees

manently lose that tree. "Their environmental ideals are being brought into their homes in a very tangible way," Gilbert says.

Projects include a hazardous chestnut tree whose removal was pictured in a recent *EW* cover story (11/21). Gilbert was dismayed at the idea people would think that tree was simply being made into firewood, when in fact the property owners arranged for it to be saved and made into flooring for a home.

One of his current projects is constructing the LCC Native American Longhouse out of donated timber. Gilbert is Native American and danced at the recent LCC Powwow. Long Tom Custom Sawmill has also worked on the Lowell Covered Bridge and transformed countless hazardous trees into cabins, porches and wood façades over otherwise conventional homes.

Gilbert, Hupé and other timber recyclers take pride in turning the by-products of Eugene's street trees into items that are both beautiful and useful as well as environmentally conscious. "Nobody wakes up in the morning wanting to rape and pillage the urban forest," says Gilbert.

EW

Still Swinging

Lee Trippett's adventures with clacking balls and Bigfoot

In 1967, it was a best seller. Click clack, can you hear it? When it became a national phenomenon the following year, the inventor was asked the inevitable: "Are you the man with the swinging balls?"

Forty years later, Michael Scott from NBC's *The Office* has one on his desk. Television and movies have done wonders to keep the toy with the five swinging steel balls in the public's awareness since Eugene resident Lee Trippett made the first Swinging Wonder in his garage.

Trippett, an electronics engineer, designed the scientific-demonstration toy as an assignment for a class at the UO while earning his certificate to teach physics in the early 1960s. The basic principle for illustrating Newton's Third Law of Motion — for every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction — had been around for years in various and bulky formats, but it was Trippett, who at 31, worked it out mathematically and created the first portable unit.

The assignment was a success, but he gave little thought to his invention after the class ended, until fate intervened. Trippett overheard words that would change his life while spending a memorable afternoon exploring the paranormal at the home of writer Ivan T. Sanderson.

Sanderson let slip that Texas multi-millionaire Tom Slick was offering up to a million dollars for the first authentic photograph, dead or alive, of Bigfoot. Appealing to Trippett's scientific mind and economic sensibilities, the thrill of hunting Bigfoot became his passion in life.

Trippett and his wife, Marlys, looked into a number of schemes and mail order options that would provide both the time and the money to capture Bigfoot for the million dollar check while supporting their 3-year-old son. The answer sat on their shelf at home. Paul Agerter, owner of Eugene Toy and Hobby at the time, suggested that Trippett make more of the Swinging Wonder prototype and sell them through his store in time for Christmas.

The current owners of Eugene Toy and Hobby, brothers Mark and Allen Agerter, were just kids when Trippett carried the first homemade units to the store in brown paper bags that Christmas season. "Incredible," said Mark of the memory. "We sold everything he could bring us. It was a great product, fascinating."

Former appliance salesman Bob Pierce, who worked at Montgomery Ward across from Eugene Toy and Hobby, still owns the Swinging Wonder with the wooden frame he purchased in 1968. "I bought it for the novelty; it was fun, different," Kim Still of Cottage Grove remembers turning 10 that year. "I really, really wanted a Swinging Wonder for my birthday. It was the only thing I wanted, and I kept it on my desk for years. I still have it."

Sales were brisk, but after Christmas they flat-lined. Trippett took his Swinging Wonder to every gift shop in town and was rejected at every turn. Teased with the auspicious beginning, disappointment crept in. Trippett finally left one behind as a display during his last sales call to a gift shop in the Red Lion.

"Call it fate, coincidence or good luck," said Trippett. "Whatever it was, it sent me two traveling salesmen in the furniture business based out of San Francisco." While staying at the Red Lion they noticed the Swinging Wonder in the gift shop. A sticker on the bottom held Trippett's contact information, and before long, the three of them were discussing marketing plans.

Traveling up and down the West Coast, from Seattle to San Diego, the two men showed the scientific toy to their clients, including big retail stores like Macy's. Their efforts resulted in a few orders, about a dozen at a time, until an innovative marketing strategy helped them hit the jackpot. When live models in department store windows began demonstrating the toy, the movement and sound of the steel balls clacking against each other drew attention from the customers.

Suddenly inundated with orders from all over the country, the Trippetts ran out of room and the ability to continue building the Swinging Wonders in their garage. Moving to a warehouse on 7th Avenue, their new company, Scientific

Demonstrators, Inc., employed 100 people and manufactured 1,000 units a day.

Lee and Marlys forgot all about Bigfoot.

Admittedly "naïve," they took their toy with the catchy name to a New York trade show without a patent. In what felt like a "New York" minute, more than 30 competitors had created knockoffs. Larger toy manufacturers accessed their financial records through a credit bureau and feared no lawsuits.

Trippett held an advantage over the competition because of his meticulous design and choice of materials. It took many months for others to discover his method of attaching the special nylon thread used in canvas awnings to the high-carbon-hardened steel balls. His secret was an industrial strength epoxy reserved for repairing ships at sea.

"The separation of the steel balls is critical," he said. "None of the others ever got the alignment and separation just right; none of them worked as cleanly."

Scientific Demonstrators, Inc. sold more than 400,000 of the original Swinging Wonders during its three-year run. Because each unit required five steel

balls, the company used two million of them and needed more to keep producing. "In the late 1960s, there were very few people making steel balls," Trippett said, "and we bought out their inventory."

Add competitors to the equation, and their sources dried up.

Gaining notoriety by introducing a toy with a scientific principle to the consumer market, Trippett was asked the next obvious question, "What else you got?"

The Harmonograph, a pendulum-based drawing machine that used gravity and colored pens to create curvaceous geometric designs, was his response. Investing all their profits from the Swinging Wonder into the Harmonograph, they unveiled it at trade shows in San Francisco, Seattle and New York.

Buyers expressed great interest, but that quickly waned after they discovered trouble with display and marketing. Unlike the small, noisy Swinging Wonder, the Harmonograph was large, needed support to be hung from the ceiling, and remained silent. People had to be come involved to appreciate it.

Hemorrhaging money during the recession of the early 1970s, the Trippetts hired marketing experts and eventually signed over the rights to their attorney to keep the money flowing. After the Harmonograph venture failed, they made a deal with one of the men who had manufactured the steel balls. The new owner of the Swinging Wonder loaded everything from Scientific Demonstrators, Inc. into his truck and drove the pieces home to Wisconsin.

Lee returned to teaching, and Marlys became a secretary.

Trippett's attention relocated on Bigfoot. Bent on finding a shortcut to bag the illusive creature, Trippett looked to psychics for information and hoped to influence the "man-animal" by setting up a sense of "sympathetic vibrations." As the first to produce a summary report of Bigfoot sightings with dates and locations, he was interviewed by *The San Francisco Chronicle* and *Newsweek*.

Taking early retirement, Trippett has spent considerable effort in exploring alternative energy resources beyond solar and wind, delving into quantum science.

Bigfoot remains a major character in Trippett's life. "This is the most powerful and significant mystery today, and it would be upsetting to both science and religion if Bigfoot were to be proven scientifically." **EW**

Best-Selling Toys in Eugene

- Eugene Toy & Hobby - "Anything radio controlled."
- Eugene's Holiday Market - "Nontoxic wooden puzzles and trucks hand-made by Tom Savelich and little fairies made by Patty Ferguson."
- Elephant's Trunk - "The Chronicles of Narnia pop-up book by Robert Sabuda and the International Karito Kids 18" adventure dolls that come with books."

Hopefully Lee Trippett's clacking balls won't scare Bigfoot away



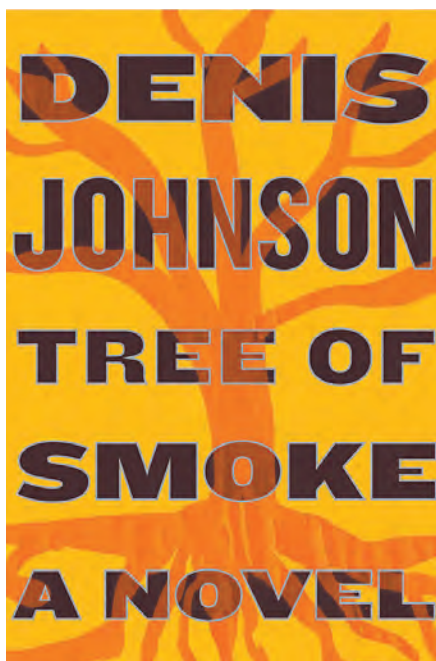
PHOTO BY DONALD WEBB

winterREADING

Every year, selecting the few books that we'll review in the annual Winter Reading section is a challenge. We have to pick early, so we don't always know what we'll want from the fall publications; we have to pick widely so we don't overload on young adult fiction, historical fiction, food-centric nonfiction or whatever else we've been heavily reading during the year. This year, we've managed to sustain a fairly regular books column, meaning some things we might have included here (Oregon Book Award fiction finalists, for example), have already been reviewed in *EW's* pages. We've written about *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* and Alex Ross's *The Rest is Noise*; we've reviewed debut novels, nonfiction love letters to lost magazines and new books from UO professors such as Lauren Kessler and Ehud Havazelet. But we can never get it all, much as we'd like to (though we're not quite finished; check next week for one last 2007 books column and a few last-minute gift suggestions!).

Winter Reading, then, isn't exactly a best of the year reading list; instead, we like to think of it a bit like the way Douglas Wolk explains the comics he chose to discuss in his engrossing, entertaining *Reading Comics*: They're just some of the books we found interesting to read, review and, hopefully, discuss. We hope you'll find a few things of interest in here, too. — Molly Templeton

fiction



Fire Water Burn

TREE OF SMOKE by Denis Johnson. FARRAR, STRAUS & GIROUX, 2007. HARDCOVER, \$27. WINNER, 2007 NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FOR FICTION. A *NEW YORK TIMES* BEST BOOK OF 2007.

The Vietnam War gets its first great postmodern treatment in Denis Johnson's sprawling, cautionary epic *Tree of Smoke*. The author of *Jesus' Son*, the widely praised minimalist collection of short stories about junkies and thieves, brings us a maximalist novel that begins with John F. Kennedy's assassination, crescendos with the Tet offensive and gently recedes from this tumultuous time period to a coda set in the corporate cool of 1983. It is as daring in its structure as in its ambition.

As Laura Miller correctly observed in a review for *Salon*, a scene where army grunts torture a Viet Cong prisoner because their sergeant was injured and a colonel must intervene and execute the

prisoner in order to stop the madness is the "hinge of the novel, its heart of darkness, and the rest of the story's events radiate from that point, forward and backward in time, with an impressive symmetry." This two-part structure allows Johnson to frame the war in its dominant tropes: unable to withdraw, unable to advance and doomed to repetition (the very definition of hell).

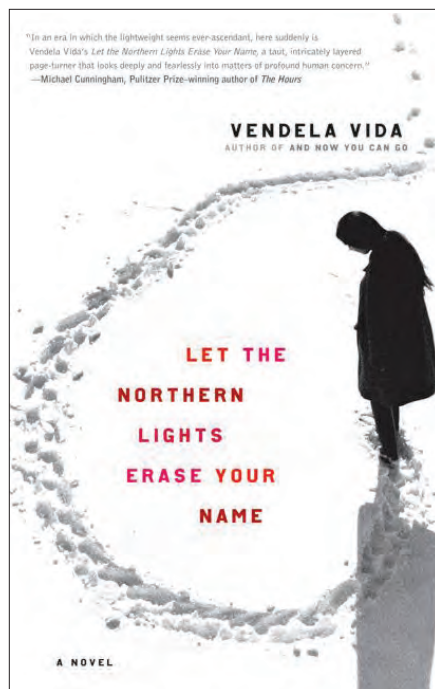
The story proper follows freshman CIA operative William "Skip" Sands as he is sent to the jungles of Southeast Asia to work for his uncle, Col. Francis X. Sands, who commands a small brigade despite the fact he's retired from the U.S. military. Skip researches local folklore for his uncle — who believes war is "90 percent myth" — while his patience and patriotism are slowly corroded. *Tree of Smoke* collects the myths of that era, boils them in a pot and adds dashes of *Apocalypse Now!*, *The Quiet American* and a host of other literary references to make this searing, violent novel a work of strange beauty — with knowing winks. — Chuck Adams

Sparkling in the Cold

LET THE NORTHERN LIGHTS ERASE YOUR NAME by Vendela Vida. ECCO, 2007.

Vendela Vida doesn't waste any time. Her second novel begins with a young woman on a plane that's landing in Helsinki. When the driver of the shuttle that takes her to her hotel calls, she feels only relief that it's not her fiancé. What brings this woman, Clarissa, so far from her New York home is carefully and quickly revealed: The day of her father's funeral, she found that he wasn't her biological father and that her fiancé had known this for years. Feeling betrayed and rootless — her mother left when she was 14 — Clarissa took off for Finland, the home of the man whose name was on her birth certificate.

In the cold, far north of Lapland, Clarissa finds the Sami priest she thinks is her



father, and she meets a young reindeer herder whose aunt, a healer, takes her in. And, in her self-imposed exile from everyone she knew before, she finds both questions and answers. *Let the Northern Lights Erase Your Name* is a literary cousin to Diana Abu-Jaber's *Origin*, which also concerns a woman in search of her own history in a cold, beautifully evoked setting. Vida is more concerned with the people than the place, though. While Abu-Jaber painted icy, gray portraits of upstate New York, where her protagonist searched for a murderer and herself, Vida's Clarissa notes the red frostbite scar on the face of Henrik, who helps on her quest, and the movement of the hands of Eero, the man she thinks is her father. As Clarissa explores the story of the year her mother came to this small northern town, when the indigenous Sami protested the building of a dam that would flood one of their towns, her own tale overlaps with her mother's in ways even more difficult than the burden of family and the habit of running away. Vida writes with clarity and grace, giving us an aching, lost girl, not always sympathetic but always grieving, always searching. Her small book has a coolness that's not the product of distance, though it's something like it; isolating herself in an isolated, frozen land, Clarissa puts space between herself and the things she both wants and fears to know. But it's a space that somehow serves to pull a reader in, a suggestion of warmth in a land of ice, snow and memory. — Molly Templeton

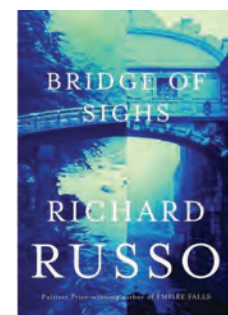
Mr. Hooper Lives Upstate

BRIDGE OF SIGHS by Richard Russo. KNOPE, 2007. HARDCOVER, \$26.95. A *NEW YORK TIMES* NOTABLE BOOK OF 2007.

The thing about writing in the first person is that it's very challenging to give any kind of outside view on your character. Perhaps the most famous 20th century first-person work, *Lolita*, reveals its narrator's untrustworthiness early on and never looks back. But in Richard Russo's new work, his first novel since the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Empire Falls*, he alternates first-person chapters in the voice of convenience store owner Louis C. ("Lucy") Lynch with third-person chapters about Lynch's two main touchstones: his sometime-friend, Robert Noonan, and Sarah Berg, who has been married to Lynch for years. Russo chronicles the small class differences in mostly white, blue-collar towns like no one else, and in *Bridge* he also writes brilliantly about the ways children learn to become adults in such a

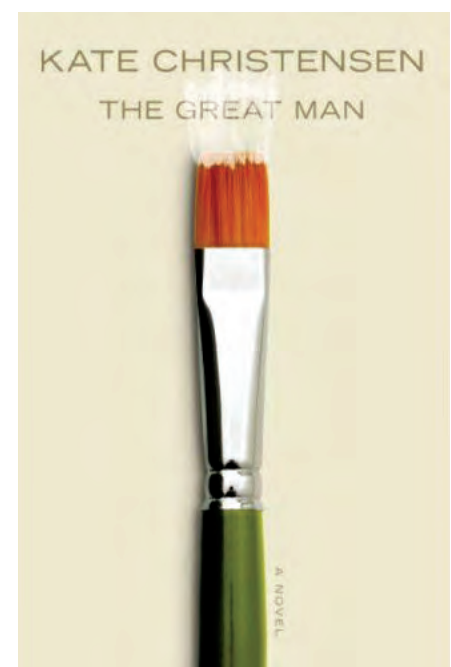
place. In Thomaston, a town in upstate N.Y., parents work, and often work over, their children; 40 years later, the children's paths will cross again. The book seemingly weighs in on the side of small-town life with occasional jaunts to other places, for the characters who end up the happiest (and, of course, still alive) stay where they're planted. They don't up and flee to Paris and Venice; they don't pursue their large dreams; they don't do anything but try to live the best and most honest way they can.

Or do they? Sarah and Noonan are both painters, but only Noonan has fame. In fact, Noonan never painted a thing until he escaped the dye-stained stream of Thomaston, where the tannery has been poisoning its residents slowly and surely. And Sarah, whose artistic gift, readers are given to learn, is quite large, remains mostly content with teaching the occasional



high school art class. Meanwhile Lynch, jovial and sentimental, writes about his past in a way that both shines a light on his parents' marriage and obscures his emotions and some of his less

honorable actions, which we nevertheless discover as Sarah and Noonan weigh in. Russo's plot goes off the rails about 75 pages from the end of the lengthy book, which encompasses almost all of Lynch's life; it's as if he thought Lynch somehow needed more explanation while the storyline needed another character. Neither is true, and the melodrama of the Noonan narrative thread ends with a whimper as Lynch and Sarah soldier on. From Lynch's point of view, things are pretty much just fine, but we know his reliability has its limits. We also know that parents damage their children in various and sundry ways and that the next generations already show damage and partial recovery, all based around the corner grocery. — Suzi Steffen



The Graces, Revealed

THE GREAT MAN by Kate Christensen. DOUBLEDAY, 2007. HARDCOVER, \$23.95.

In *Jacob's Room*, Virginia Woolf constructed the young man of the title by having a variety of characters talk about him and around him. He's not there, and discovering why opens up a vision of loss

that Woolf also wrote into *To the Lighthouse*, *Mrs. Dalloway* and *The Waves*. One assumes that Christensen won't be writing several more books about Oscar Feldman, the man of the title, who resembles no one so much as an oddly idealized vision of a Picasso-esque male abstract expressionist, all sex and brio with no feel for consequences. He's all about virility, obsessed with painting only female nudes and screwing a variety of different women — not that we ever hear Oscar's inner life from himself. He's also not there. Through a postmodern textual wrinkle, the book opens with his (fictional) *Times* obit. From there, the narrative dives into the interactions of two Oscar Feldman biographers with the three main women in his life: his wife Abigail, his mistress Teddy and his sister Maxine, also a painter.

But Christensen's intent isn't really to build an image of Oscar; instead, she shows the lives of the three elderly women and their different, rarely overlapping New York worlds. Abigail, consistently providing care for their middle-aged autistic son, recalls Oscar in a much more gentle fashion than Teddy, who is the mother of two adult women, also Oscar's children. Teddy's best friend Lila enters into the narration as well, her reflections on Teddy and Oscar giving heft to the self-interested accounts of the other women and also shining a light on some of Oscar's irresponsible behavior, which left Teddy in poverty. And Maxine — she's what's often known as a battle-axe, a formidable character whose heart the reader gets to see. She always yearns after those she can't quite have and finds, so late in life, that her art may finally eclipse that of her brother. Christensen deals with the erotic and internal lives of the middle-aged and elderly with a kind of thoughtful yet humorous detail that comes home most strongly in the differences among the meals these women serve to the biographers. That's literal, of course, but also figurative: Abigail deals handily with one of them, serving him a tempting trade that essentially destroys his integrity. *The Great Man* ends with fictional book reviews of the two biographies, and readers see that the male writers concentrating on the "great man" have lost their

chance to write about the great women he knew. Thankfully, for that we have Christensen. — *Suzi Steffen*



Dot-Com, or Bust
THEN WE CAME TO THE END by Joshua Ferris. LITTLE, BROWN AND COMPANY, 2007. HARDCOVER, \$23.99. FINALIST, 2007 NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FOR FICTION. A NEW YORK TIMES BEST BOOK OF 2007.

The story of a group of coworkers at a rapidly shrinking advertising agency — when someone gets fired, as keeps happening, they get "walked Spanish down the hall," a complicated and perfectly explained bit of office in-jokery — Joshua Ferris' debut novel, *Then We Came to the End*, is audacious, observant, funny, sympathetic and, above all, inclusive. His choice of voice — first-person plural — includes everyone in the office (as well as the reader) in its wry, dry, storytelling tone. On the one hand, it's very specific, as former ad agency employee Ferris details the work, the putting off of the work, the ways to spend time and waste time and perhaps, at some point, actually do some work; on the other, the peculiarities of office life are depicted in such a way that they become universal. Life at work, be that work in an office, a warehouse or a bookstore, is its own culture, with its own hierarchies and rules and sense of humor, and it's that culture that Ferris both relishes in and skewers with this book. There is no single

main character though Lynn Mason gets a middle segment that's quite different from the group narrative. The ongoing question of whether she has cancer gives her colleagues a focus, a way to worry about something outside themselves and their job, as does the firing of Tom Mota, whose inability to sustain a persona that will fit in with the office groupthink leads him to wear three company polos at once and email impassioned missives to the entire company late at night. What happens to those who get fired and can't leave their office self behind, or to those still working in this shrinking, nervous community, is endlessly funny and surprisingly touching, especially as Ferris brings it all together at the end. — *Molly Templeton*

Little Lives of Greatness
FALLING MAN by Don DeLillo. SCRIBNER, 2007. HARDCOVER, \$26. A NEW YORK TIMES NOTABLE BOOK OF 2007.



Saying that now, six years later, 9/11 lingers in our public consciousness is a gross understatement. While the media frenzy inevitably dulled over time, we're still saturated with the imagery and iconography of that day, not to mention the frequent reminders from the likes of Bush, Cheney and Giuliani. "9/11 literature" can almost justify its own section at the bookstore. So when DeLillo approaches the subject, even head on as he does, it's more than impressive that his efforts don't come off as tired or stale. In fact, *Falling Man* does what I thought impossible — it made September 11 real again, not just a dull wash of 24-hour cable news and American flag decals.

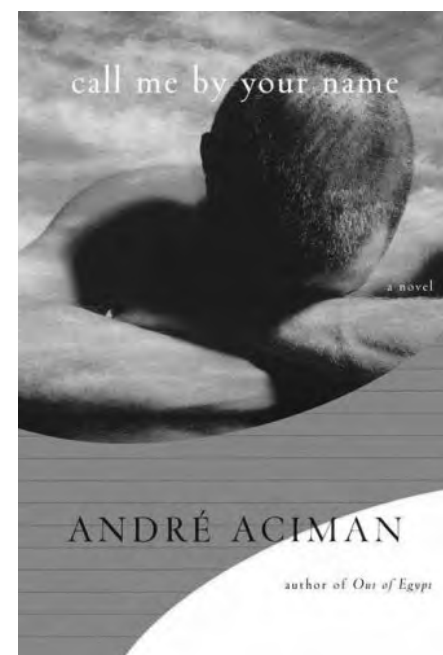
The title refers to a New York performance artist who dangles above passersby in business attire and a pose that imitates the famous photo by Richard Drew. Like DeLillo, the *Falling Man* — to better or worse effect — attempts to approach the tragedy by jarring us out of a haze fed by television reports and political posturing.

The book opens in the immediate aftermath and introduces us to Keith, a

businessman who worked in World Trade Center when the planes hit. Through his interactions — and often lack of interactions — with his family, fellow lower Manhattanites and ex-poker buddies, we begin to understand the difficulty of resigning oneself with nothing short of catastrophe.

As Keith eventually becomes singularly concerned with distancing himself from the event, we are introduced to another thread in which Hammad, one of the hijackers of Flight 11, becomes singularly obsessed with his own apparent destiny. "We are ready to sink into our little lives," Keith says — this seems to be a mantra throughout the work.

While the usual DeLillo detractors — those who view his characters as empty vessels for the author's own ideas — will likely not be appeased, *Falling Man* continues to make an argument that DeLillo is, sentence for sentence, the best novelist in America. — *Tony Perez*



Love, Actually
CALL ME BY YOUR NAME by André Aciman. FARRAR, STRAUS & GIRoux, 2007. HARDCOVER, \$23. A NEW YORK TIMES NOTABLE BOOK OF 2007.

BooksLut.com says, "The hardest part of writing a review for André Aciman's powerful first novel, *Call Me By Your Name*, is trying not to turn it into a love let-

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ter to the author." Well, consider that challenge already lost. I'll just say it: I don't know you, André Aciman, but I *adore* your writing. Another reviewer says, "*Call Me By Your Name* may prove to be the beautiful book of 2007. That is the first and only important thing to say about André Aciman's debut novel, at least after a first reading."

This lovely book, fraught with the inefable tension of first love, takes place in memory. The main character, Elio, recounts his tale of 20 years before, in the charged atmosphere of the Italian Riviera, where he and his parents live in the summer. His father, a professor whom some might suspect is a type of contemporary literature prof Aciman knows well, always takes on a grad student over the summer; this year, the American "houseguest" Oliver proves a potent attraction. The heat of summer and the atmosphere of intellectual sparring mix with Elio's sexual awakening as he learns the language of flirting and lust with another young man. The delicately balanced, splendidly strong prose hovers like desire itself, every breath one step away from the blissful surrender. I've hardly read anything more romantic, more tender or filled with longing and regret, than *Call Me By Your Name*. You may think someone who hates *Romeo and Juliet* couldn't possibly care about another romance, but you would be wrong: This book trumps genres, categories, definitions. It rises above them and dances, beautifully, on love, the thread that binds and blinds humans bent — even against our wills — on connection. — *Suzi Steffen*

Tokyo Dreaming

AFTER DARK by Haruki Murakami. KNOPE, 2007. HARDCOVER, \$22.95. A NEW YORK TIMES NOTABLE BOOK OF 2007.

This slim, restrained little book is a far cry from Haruki Murakami's dense, visionary *The Wind-Up Bird Chronicle*; it's more

in line with the sweet, straightforward *Norwegian Wood*, though even smaller in scope. *After Dark* follows a handful of characters through one night in Tokyo, as 19-year-old Mari Asai stays out all night. At home, her beautiful older sister

sleeps as she has for the past two months, stepping out of life and into a strange somnolent realm. Mari stays out in the coffee shops and diners of the city, reading, staying awake, balancing a waking life for herself and the sister she's only once felt close to.

On this particular night, Mari meets a friendly young trombonist; he connects her to Kaoru, a woman who runs a love hotel and needs Mari's help to deal with a peculiar situation. Stories overlap, and Murakami pulls us ever closer in, describing us — the reader, the writer — as pure point of view (and a cinematic one at that) as we watch the strange events unfolding around sleeping Eri. The tone in Eri's parts of the story is watchful, almost instructive, as Murakami describes the sleeping girl's existence; it contrasts with the involved, sympathetic perspective from which we see Mari.

After Dark presents the magic of a strange night around a story of identity, connection and loneliness. It's a mood piece colored with music (for Murakami, a jazz fan, the song playing in a diner or café

is always worth noting) and the comfort of strangers. *After Dark* is vintage Murakami in terms of the unusual world that seems to overlap with our own, but it's a slight story, an appetizer of tone and atmosphere (the nighttime city is as much a character as shy Mari). Out of this strange, long night, Murakami carefully and thoughtfully teases slender strands of plot and character to create a quiet, intimate piece that's unexpectedly compelling and unforgettable, like that last dream before waking. — *Molly Templeton*



Sewer Pipe Dreams

THERE'S A (SLIGHT) CHANCE I MIGHT BE GOING TO HELL by

Laurie Notaro. VILLARD, 2007. PAPERBACK, \$13.95.

Author Laurie Notaro is a humorist known for her essays about *Idiot Girls*, dorky girls and fat brides. In her first fiction book we meet plump, 30-something, happily married Maye Roberts. When Maye's husband Charlie takes a job at a college in Washington state, Maye must leave her close group of friends in Phoenix and spend her days eating lunch alone in the much smaller town of Spaulding, built upon the sewer pipe industry. There she meets an assortment of oddballs she unwittingly turns into enemies: the bookstore clerk, the mailman, people she stalks at the grocery store and Charlie's boss' wife, Rowena, who was not endeared by Maye's inadvertent striptease when they first met at a faculty function. It's Maye's obsession with making at least one friend that drives the story. Her only hope of finding acceptance is to run for — and win! — the Spaulding Sewer Pipe Queen Pageant. She knows she could win with the help of the mysterious Ruby Spicer, the greatest queen Spaulding has ever known, but Ruby vanished decades ago. The story takes a twist when Maye locates a deranged, chain-smoking crackpot who claims to be Ruby and uncovers a sinister secret the town tried to forget. With the help of her piano-playing dog, Maye attempts to win over the town, give the snobby Rowena her comeuppance and clear Ruby's name.

Notaro herself recently moved from Phoenix to Eugene, and the Sewer Pipe Queen pageant pulls its inspiration from our own S.L.U.G. Queen traditions. The peculiar people Maye encounters — a hell-on-wheels mailman, militant vegetarians, a book club/coven — could be your neighbors. Despite a reliance on overlong metaphors that frequently fall flat and a

number of scenes bordering on ridiculous, this book kept me turning pages and laughing out loud until the end. — *Vanessa Salvia*

Escaping the Rez

THE ABSOLUTELY TRUE DIARY OF A PART-TIME INDIAN by Sherman Alexie. Illustrated by Ellen Forney. LITTLE, BROWN YOUNG READERS, 2007. HARDCOVER, \$16.99. **WINNER, 2007 NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FOR YOUNG PEOPLE'S LITERATURE. A NEW YORK TIMES NOTABLE CHILDREN'S BOOK OF 2007.**

I recently reviewed Sherman Alexie's 2007 novel *Flight* as a young adult work, but Alexie himself says he didn't think of it that way. The violence, he thought, wasn't the usual young adult fare. Then *Absolutely True Diary* came out, and if the alcoholism, severe beatings and violence of poverty aren't as harsh as things that occur in *Flight*, I'll be hornsogged. In any case, the YA community is (mostly) hailing *Diary* as the second coming; it was crowned with a National Book Award and should be a shoo-in for the Printz honor list as well as other YA awards. *Absolutely True Diary* also centers around a teenager, this one much more like Alexie himself than was Zits in *Flight*. This one is a Spokane Indian living on the reservation; his name is Junior; he's smart; he gets attacked a lot; he leaves the reservation for a white school where, his teachers on the rez tell him, there's the possibility of hope.

Hmm, Alexie readers might be thinking, sounds very familiar from *Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven* or many of his other books. True, but *Diary* features some of Alexie's best writing of recent years, a mix of the unbearable and the humorous with Alexie's patented grimly desperate optimism, and Ellen Forney's funny, painful illustrations mesh perfectly with Junior's voice. What Junior loses by leaving the rez can't be regained, but he has to leave to survive, and there's no one better than Alexie at explaining how this tears people apart. Despite some horrifying losses, though, Junior ends up with a tentative, tenuous feeling of hope, of being able to connect in both worlds. And perhaps *Diary* will lead youth readers into Alexie's other work, especially his short stories or poetry (some of which appears in different form in *Diary*). Not that YA work should be a gateway drug, but if it

works in this case, I'm pleased; all of Alexie's work, from poetry to short stories to novels, deserves a wide readership both in the adult and teenage worlds. — *Suzi Steffen*

The Clockwork God

MAINSRING by Jay Lake. TOR, 2007. HARDCOVER, \$24.95.

Hethor Jacques, a young clockmaker's apprentice, can hear the finest watch ticking, can hear if the tiny gears are in tune or awry ... a fine skill to have in his future profession, but even better when living in the mechanistic world created by Jay Lake in *Mainspring*. The Earth, divided east to west by a mountainous brass wall, rolls along a colossal solar gear, ticking through each day and year in this carefully calibrated universe. Lake takes a stand in this novel: God exists and He really did make the world; these gears and wheels didn't evolve. So when a midnight



visit by a brass angel leaves young Hethor charged with the duty of winding the mainspring of the world, his adventurous journey is most definitely a spiritual one as well. How he comes to terms with this mythical charge as well as how he makes his way through this fantastic world makes for some great rainy day reading. Author Jay Lake is an Oregonian (up Portland way) and winner of the 2004 John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer. — *Paula Hoemann*

First Say Farewell

RULES FOR SAYING GOODBYE by Katherine Taylor. FARRAR, STRAUS & GIROUX, 2007. HARDCOVER, \$24.

The protagonist of Katherine Taylor's first novel is named Katherine Taylor. In an interview, the author has said this is a sort of double bluff, taking on the habit readers and reviewers have of



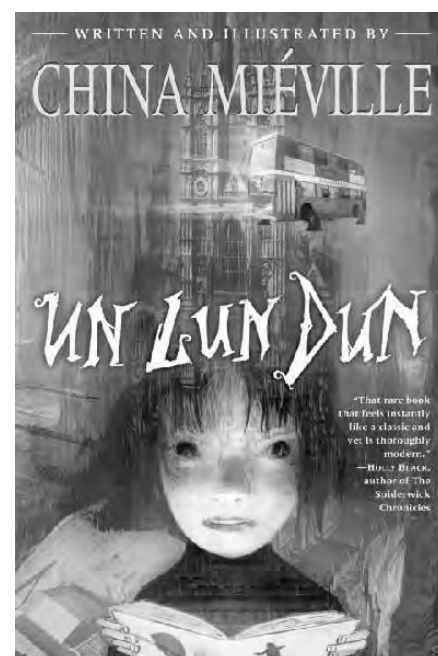
assuming that novels featuring characters that sound rather like their authors are thinly veiled autobiography. The conceit fades away, though, as the book zips through the fictional Katherine's childhood and teen years at boarding school, coming to rest in her post-collegiate, uncertain existence in New York City.

Though good things often seen to come her way — a rent-controlled Manhattan apartment, for example — Katherine muddles along, bartending, thinking about writing, smoking endless cigarettes and noting gorgeous details of life in New York ("Second Avenue was always full of squashed fruit," she observes; dreamily counting the crushed oranges nearly gets her killed). Her relationships drive the story; an English boyfriend leads her to one life in Europe while a later love gives her a reason to move to Rome. But it never works out — not the love, and not the life. "Maybe it's time for you to start thinking about what it is you really want," Katherine's boyfriend tell her, gently summing up the problem in one simple sentence. *Rules* is a book full of failure, uncertainty and growth of the awkward, painful kind that results in lonesome weekends and too many glasses of wine, but it's so acutely depicted that it's captivating rather than depressing. Katherine is a chilly voice, an unfinished person looking for the next life-shaping thing; she wants to write fiction but finds herself writing magazine profiles, telling the stories assigned to her rather than her own. Until, one assumes, she got around to writing this novel, which at times reads like an unbelievably well-written, candid journal. But Katherine isn't Taylor and Taylor isn't Katherine, or if she is, it's irrelevant; this selfish, slowly growing character takes on plenty of life of her own. — *Molly Templeton*

Wait For It ...

UN LUN DUN by China Miéville. DEL REY, 2007. HARDCOVER, \$17.95.

Those who have read some of Miéville's adult science fiction works may be surprised by the playfulness of this long middle-grade book. The story questions both predestination and the familiar Tolkien (and Biblical) tropes of those who are picked by some greater force to take up a mantle of



heroism. Instead, Miéville suggests, you don't need to be a prophesied hero like Lyra Belacqua of *The Golden Compass* — or even Frodo Baggins — in order to shoulder a quest, especially if you accept the help of a motley crew upon your journey. But this heroic journey, which ends by skewering the nostalgia and lost-world determinism at the conclusion of many fantasy stories (if Miéville had his way, Milo would never say goodbye to Tock, nor Frodo to his homeland), wanders delightfully through wordplay so enjoyable that adults and young readers both will giggle even as they recognize the authorial message about the bad guy.

Talking much about the plot would reveal some of the joys of the book too soon. And if you pick up a copy, don't scan the back of the hardback edition, which tries to capture readers by quoting one of the more amusing constructions of the narrative and ends up spoiling some fun. In any case, heroine Deeba's courage and adaptability combine with Miéville's obvious adoration of his constructed world to create a superb adventure that should charm many a young reader and even manage to amuse older youth who like a good yarn. Like most great middle-grade adventures, *Un Lun Dun* has no hint of sexuality and no "bad" language; if you know a strong reader ages 8-12 who has gobbled the *Harry*



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Potter books, Kenneth Oppel's *Airborne* or Philip Reeve's *Larklight*, hand over *Un Lun Dun* for the holidays and watch the fun begin. — *Suzi Steffen*

July, July

NO ONE BELONGS HERE MORE THAN YOU by Miranda July. SCRIBNER, 2007.

HARDCOVER, \$23. WINNER OF THE FRANK O'CONNOR INTERNATIONAL SHORT STORY AWARD.

Whimsical. Inventive. Witty. Charming. Full of wonder ... yeah, yeah, yeah; Miranda July's debut collection, *No One Belongs Here More Than You*, is all those things — so were her performance pieces and her records and her movie.

It's great that July has the ability to work in varying mediums, but it becomes apparent early in the book that she isn't exploring new ground. She's taken the same routine — bizarre, naïve, characteristically idiosyncratic outsider who doesn't feel loved — and transferred it from stage to vinyl to film and now to the page. Regardless of the age, gender or sexual orientation of the protagonist, the voice and tone of the stories are almost identical. If you look past a few of the premises, the characters throughout the book might as well be the same person.

That being said, I'd be lying if I didn't admit that July has some chops. There are moments when genuine emotion breaks through in spite of her insistence on overshadowing it with cuteness, particularly in "The Sister," "Birthmark" and "How to Tell Stories to Children." July can occasionally balance wit and humor with a driving need, which is without fail the desire for human connection. Still, when every story hinges on the reader falling for the protagonist's melancholy quirk, the result is that the collection as a whole is more obnoxious than the sum of its parts.

"What a terrible mistake to let go of something wonderful for something real," one character remarks. I don't know — it doesn't sound so terrible. Never has whimsical and inventive felt so formulaic. But everyone loves you, Miranda. You — darling of magazine covers, critic's year-end lists and literary awards — are no longer the ignored, the overlooked. Time to drop the unloved shtick and use your talents for something genuine. — *Tony Perez*

No one belongs here more than you. Stories by Miranda July

PETER CAMERON

someday
this
pain
will
be
useful
to
you



Your Prime Suffering Years

SOMEDAY THIS PAIN WILL BE USEFUL TO YOU by Peter Cameron.

FRANCES FOSTER BOOKS/FARRAR, STRAUS & GIROUX, 2007. HARDCOVER, \$16.

This book, which takes its title from a line by Ovid, is novelist Peter Cameron's first venture into young adult fiction; the author has said that it took him 30 years to find the character of 18-year-old James Sveck and to write about how he felt at 18. James lives in Manhattan with his sister, a student, and his mother, who owns a gallery at which her son works. James is supposed to be going to college in the fall, but he's spending his considerable free time fantasizing about farmhouses in the Midwest, about escaping from New York and everything he knows there. Self-isolating and prone to using his hyperliterate speech and insistence on precision as a defense, James is so cut off, such a loner, that he's hard to sympathize with. Without realizing what he's doing, he plays a joke of heartbreaking cruelty on someone he considers almost a friend; he turns his psychologist's questions around on her and resists her every attempt to explain, in any small part, his behavior. Cameron's beautiful trick, then, is that he makes James sad, but not pathetic; sympathetic, but dislikable; wrong, but almost right. He's a character so self-centered he's lost his ability to connect, to understand, to even really consider the experience of



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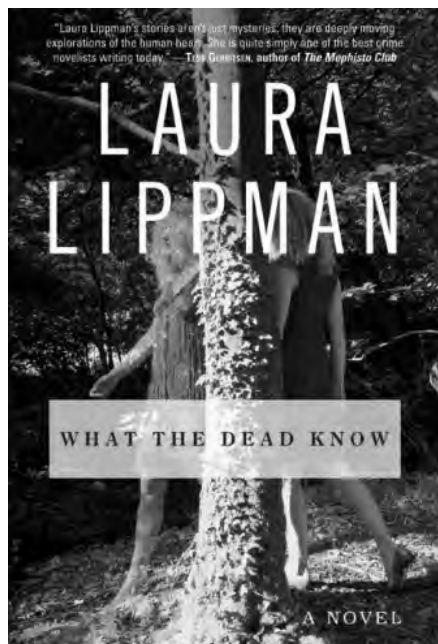
CROOKED LITTLE VEIN, fiction by Warren Ellis. WILLIAM MORROW, 2007. HARDCOVER, \$21.95.

From the delightfully disturbing mind of comics writer Warren Ellis (*Transmetropolitan*, *Planetary*) comes this dirty, giddy little book. It's about the *other* Constitution, the one that's bound in alien skin and infrasonically forces people to read it, and the hopeless private investigator, McGill, who's hired by a nasty presidential chief of staff to find said Constitution. Its trail leads McGill and a feisty young woman named Trix through an eye-opening tour of underground American depravity — except that, in comparison with a book that will be used to reset the country's morality, that depravity doesn't seem so, well, depraved. Ellis has said *Crooked Little Vein* is just a "little black book," but there's something big and welcoming about his vision of the world, where everybody's normal, everybody's fucked, and the geeks are going to save us all in the end. — *Molly Templeton*

IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT, short stories by Helen Simpson. KNOPE, 2007. HARDCOVER, \$22.

From a quartet of teens trying not to laugh at the imperfect bodies of adults to a grown woman making the rounds in a park, considering death and change, Helen Simpson's stories trace the unavoidable condition of mortality. A husband, thinking he's dying, reforms, at least temporarily; a woman finds herself surrounded by seriously ill neighbors; a grown son grits his teeth as his mother loses her grasp on her memory. In clear, crisp prose, Simpson simply outlines a concern, a fear, and lets the scene stand on its own to echo in the reader's mind; these stories are as brief and as pointed as the snap of a clean sheet. — *Molly Templeton*

others, with the exception of his one confidant, his grandmother. He wants out, but he doesn't really know what he wants, nor how to find it. A portrait of loneliness, of trauma, of adolescent uncertainty about life and self, Cameron's book is a heart-breaker with a dose of wry humor, its title an offer of both truth and hope. — *Molly Templeton*



The Vanished Sisterhood

WHAT THE DEAD KNOW by Laura Lippman. WILLIAM MORROW, 2007. HARDCOVER, \$24.95.

Readers familiar with Laura Lippman's cracking Tess Monaghan series may be surprised by this stand-alone mystery, which contains enough feints that even experienced mystery/thriller/imposter story readers may miss some of the clues. The plot wraps around itself several times, making for an intricate unwinding: Two sisters disappear from a Baltimore mall Easter weekend, and 30 years later, someone claiming to be the younger sister shows up again near the very mall where her life changed drastically. She's been in a car accident and avoids responsibility by focusing the authorities on her claim to be Heather Bethany, the younger of the disappeared girls.

Lippman builds the suspense by writing about the present, by returning to the 1975 interactions of the family (whose members each have secrets, one of which holds the key to the disappearance) and then by unreeling the various claims and evidence that police officers, social workers and many others go through as they deal with the claims of "Heather Bethany." Even the smallest character has a weight and detailed thought process that moves Lippman beyond her previous writing, solidly constructed as it has always been. The creepy light she casts over every detail works well enough at destabilizing the reader that though the revelation seems obvious when one gets there, it's not easy to figure out ahead of time. But unlike some mysteries, *What the Dead Know* wouldn't be ruined even if the reader figured it out; that's how good the writing is. I admit to being a more hopeful person and hopeful writer than Lippman seems to be, and sometimes her take on human beings feels a bit too painful, but she's absolutely convincing both at recreating the atmosphere of the mid-1970s and at building suspense until the soft landing of the revelation arrives, puffing gently but thoroughly at the survivors' carefully rebuilt lives. — *Suzi Steffen*

Hunted and Haunted

THE LION HUNTER by Elizabeth Wein.

VIKING CHILDREN'S BOOKS, 2007. HARDCOVER, \$16.99.

I fail to understand why readers aren't snapping up everything Elizabeth Wein can produce, why major movie studios aren't investing huge sums in the rights to her gorgeous, elegant, terrifyingly real series that covers post-Arthurian politics and kingdoms in Aksum (modern-day Ethiopia and Eritrea). Oh wait, I think I just answered my own question. Sure, the tales may feature the most incredibly intricate spy network since Megan Turner Whalen's *The Thief*, not to mention the complexities of Arthur's son Medraut (Mordred), who has essentially deserted England and thrown his lot in with the royalty of the kingdom of Aksum, but ... they're set in Africa. Me, I'd pick Wein's intense, emotionally present and tightly plotted writing over that of any other YA fantasy I've read in the past few years.

The cycle began with *The Winter Prince* and continued — and continued to improve — with *A Coalition of Lions* and the high-action, high-tension *The Sunbird*, focusing on Medraut's son Telemakos. By the time Wein came out with *The Lion Hunter*, her rich painting of political intrigue and her smart chronicling of the effects of trauma (not to mention the way supposedly royal, supposedly loving adults use and abuse children) simply blew any other competition out of the water. Not that there's really a competition; Susan Cooper's *The Dark Is Rising* series and Wein's Aksum series top the Arthurian charts. Considering how much adapters butchered *The Dark Is Rising* for this year's movie, perhaps I (and Wein) should be grateful there's nothing in the works. I suppose this might be a handsell book for librarians and booksellers (the cover ... eh), and I'd urge them to do just that. But the complex imagery, tight plots and fascinating intrigue of Wein's series should continue to draw readers for years to come. Will Telemakos survive the web that continues to draw around him? If the follow-up, *The Empty Kingdom*, doesn't come to this desk soon, I'm not sure I will survive *Lion Hunter's* cliffhanger ending, one in which I screamed at Telemakos, "NO!! DON'T! NOOOOOOOO!!!!" But as for



buying the book and its prequels, let me gently urge young fantasy fans, "Yes! Do! Yeeeeeeessssss!" — *Suzi Steffen*


Variety is Key

VARIETIES OF DISTURBANCE by Lydia Davis. FARRAR, STRAUS & GIRoux, 2007. PAPERBACK, \$13. FINALIST, 2007 NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FOR FICTION. A NEW YORK TIMES NOTABLE BOOK OF 2007.

Lydia Davis is dry — very dry — in her humor, so don't let the more than 50 short stories collected in the paperback original *Varieties of Disturbance* bring you to the brink of tears and desperation without a good laugh. This is life analyzed with an eye for surprise, attempting to find truth in the mundane details we all carry with us. In these often very short stories, Davis is the anthropologist/psychologist/sociologist hellbent on deconstructing her characters' thoughts, actions, artifacts, whatever, for the sake of discovery (but not necessarily revelation or characters succeeding in the end). Quite often, Davis' characters neither succeed nor fail but merely keep on keeping on, and, like watching a baby wake from a dream to immediately start wailing, it's both curious and heartbreaking to take in.

These are stories that deal with old people nearing death, that deal with taking care of the very young, that finish where their titles leave off, such as in "Suddenly Afraid," with the story completing the thought: "because she couldn't write the name of what she was: a wa wam owm owamn womn." Many could be considered prose poems, such is the lyrical beauty of their internal rhymes and haiku punctuation.


Then there are the four heavyweight stories embedded within the collection. Despite their relative length, these aren't necessarily the conventional short stories amongst a sea of experimental flash fictions. Indeed, "We Miss You: A Study of Get-Well Letters from a Class of Fourth-Graders" and "Mrs. D and Her Maids" are just as lacking in any traditional narrative as the heavily footnoted, Robbe-Grillet-inspired "Southward Bound, Reads Worstward Ho." Davis has the confidence to collect the evidence and let the chips fall where they may. And she just may be battling Miranda July for the year's driest humor. — *Chuck Adams*



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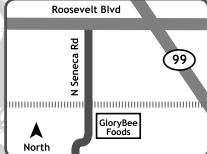
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Yick. Whoa! Yick.
KOCKROACH by Tyler Knox. WILLIAM MORROW.
2007. HARDCOVER. \$23.95.

OK, let me be honest: I took a couple of classes with Tyler Knox. I believe Knox once drove me home from an Iowa Writers' Workshop holiday party (not that I was in the workshop, just taking a class or two). So perhaps I shouldn't be reviewing this clever new novel, another in what I'd call the "MFA graduate moves to New York and must dominate city by writing about it" genre. Because Knox has literary smarts, he dedicates this *Metamorphosis*-upended novel "For G.S." One can only assume that's Kafka's Gregor Samsa, the man-become-cockroach. In *Kockroach*, however, the bug (species *Blattella germanicus*) wakes up human and, after doing some gross cockroachy eating things, names himself Jerry Blatta.

Knox swiftly transforms the amusing reversal into a commentary on corruption, on the city, on human power — and on how an amoral insect might just become the most powerful person in the country. While that may or may not be a barb aimed at various current politicians, the narrative itself brings to life a certain New York, the city of the 1950s, the Times Square (as one character describes it) "of pinball palaces and shady dance clubs, of the grand old Sheraton-Astor and the fleabag junkie haunts that surrounded it, of the Broadway theaters where I never set foot and the Roxy Burlesque, with its second-rate strippers playing to a third-rate crowd ... High heels and low brims, angry taunts and pearl-handled switchblades, jazz fiends looking for green, Benzedrine addicts looking for God." That description goes on for many more words, the montage of images showing Knox's research but also a style that brings Michael Chabon to mind far more than Franz Kafka. The tale quickly turns into a spooling out of Edward Hopper's characters in *Nighthawks* — the people themselves becoming threads in Knox's rather conventional depiction of gender relations and power dynamics. *Kockroach* is a mob tale, really, and a portrait of the city with sly references to Jerry's past life mixed in (for instance, he survives a huge conflagration — of course). It's a clever idea and, if someone who has ridden in Knox's car can say this, a generally fascinating ride. — *Suzi Steffen*

graphic novels

Between the Hudson and the East

DMZ VOL. 1-3: ON THE GROUND, BODY OF A JOURNALIST, PUBLIC WORKS by Brian Wood and Riccardo Burchielli. DC/VERTIGO. 2006 & 2007. PAPERBACK. \$9.99 EACH.

New York City is a place that gets inside your head. Live there even for a little while, and you get attached to the place, where everyone has their own version of the same few blocks and there's always something new to see. Brian Wood (whose *Channel Zero* you also ought to read) and Riccardo Burchielli's *DMZ*, a spectacularly imagined series collected into three paperbacks so far, is a particular heartbreaker for a NYC-lover, all burned-out buildings and nightmarish blocks. In a bleak future, the U.S. has split; militias have taken over most of the country, calling themselves the Free States. The United States of America still holds New York City's outer boroughs, and in the middle is the DMZ: Manhattan. It's still a Manhattan of millions of stories and hundreds of small worlds, but little else is the same, as photographer Matty Roth finds out when his new Liberty News internship falls to pieces as soon as he lands in Manhattan.

DMZ's first volume, *On the Ground*, concerns Matty's learning to live in the DMZ, meeting its residents and hearing their stories, convincing Liberty News to take him seriously and coming to feel as if he can't leave this strange, broken, wonderful place; the second, *Body of a Journalist*, is chiefly about Matty coming to understand the part he plays and the power he can, potentially, wield by using his connections inside and outside the DMZ. (Volume two also includes two separate, brief and wonderful pieces about life on the island.) The third volume, *Public Works*, is a single story about Matty trying to get inside a Halliburton-like reconstruction company called Trustwell. It's less immediately enthralling; it lacks the freshness and exploratory qualities of the first two collections, when Matty is still learning his way around, and its parallels to the war in Iraq seem almost too overt. But *DMZ's* depiction of life in a war zone, of the way people fight to survive and to help or hinder each other, is breathtaking. Wood's sometimes economical, snappy writing and Burchielli's inspired, fearless depictions of a brutal existence are vivid and textured. There's something daring about making New York, which feels like it belongs to everyone, into no man's land — except for these few men and women who tirelessly try to keep it ticking. — *Molly Templeton*



Growing, Inch by Inch

SHORTCOMINGS by Adrian Tomine.

DRAWN & QUARTERLY, 2007. HARDCOVER, \$19.95. A NEW YORK TIMES NOTABLE BOOK OF 2007.

Adrian Tomine's stories about ordinary, flawed, lovely, insecure people are intimate and familiar, full of heartbreaks, what-ifs and should-haves, all rendered in rounded, elegant black and white. *Shortcomings*, a hardcover that collects three issues of Tomine's *Optic Nerve* series, is an arresting image of a relationship caught in the act of dissolving amid disagreements about ideas and identity and how people define them-

selves, together or apart.

Ben Tanaka's girlfriend Miko has been getting more interested in her Japanese heritage, to Ben's disinterest; in the face of his dismissal of what matters to her, Miko accuses Ben of having a thing for white girls ("It's like you're obsessed with the typical Western media ideal, but you're settling for me,"



she says, heartbreakingly, when she confronts him about his porn collection). Ben vents about Miko — and everything else — to his friend Alice, a Korean lesbian whose pointed observations and willingness to accept her friends' choices about how they define themselves make her a gentle, if sassy, counter to Ben, whose stubborn refusal to consider race as

a central part of a person's identity is tested again and again.

Neither Miko nor Ben is blameless in the dissolution of their relationship; neither is truly right about the other, either. With crisp, biting, funny dialogue and spare, evocative art, Tomine charts their bumpy course to a relatively settled point, though not exactly a happy one. *Shortcomings* is less statement than suggestion, as Tomine widens his scope from the small moments between people to the larger questions — be they about race, relationships, fallacies or futures — that shape them. —Molly Templeton

panel discussion

THE BEST GRAPHIC NOVELS OF 2007 by Aaron Ragan-Fore

Perhaps it's the modern inheritance of an art form originally designed to be bundled up with yesterday's newspaper and tossed to the curb at the end of the week, but comic books are always in such a gosh-darn hurry. The growing mainstream acceptance of graphic novels as legitimate cultural commentary has led to an explosion of quality material, and the taste of the current trend is rarely out of the mouths of the nerderati bloggers, convention attendees and guys who dress up as Stormtroopers before they want to sample next month's flavor. So here's a little garden of roses the comics fan on your holiday shopping list might want to stop and smell: 2007's best graphic novels.



Alt-comix mainstay James Kochalka has been grinding out single-panel autobio strips, a sort of realistic *Family Circus* with more swearing, for nearly a decade. *American Elf Volume 2* (Top Shelf Productions, \$19.95) collects cartoons based on two years of Kochalka's daily life, as he flirts with his wife, coddles his toddler and drinks with his pals. Reading some average shlub's visual diary may sound excruciating, but Kochalka's deft lampoon of his own life produces a heartwarming, weirdly self-effacing narcissism. Even Kochalka's style of real-life characters

depicted as cutesy-pie animals endears itself to the reader after a couple weeks' worth of strips as the style offsets the honesty of the artist's human interaction.

Another comic using animals as human stand-ins is the the mono-monikered cartoonist Jason's *I Killed Adolf Hitler* (Fantagraphics Books, \$12.95), a surreal time-travel story of a 21st century professional hitman hired to, well, kill Adolf Hitler. The usual spate of time travel paradoxes ensues, including the requisite Führer-in-modern-times shenanigans. But all the sci-fi and history business is really just a scaffolding upon which Jason constructs a poignant morality play detailing his assassin's relationship woes, in which time travel serves as a metaphor for memory and change. The WWII setting and anthropomorphic actors make it difficult to resist comparison to Art Spiegelman's earnest *Maus*, but Jason keeps his tongue planted firmly in cheek.

White Rapids (Drawn & Quarterly, \$27.95), Pascal Blanchet's lush sophomore effort, also uses history as a template for an intimate story, the abbreviated life cycle



of a Québécois company town. Each page is composed like a stylishly snappy 1950s travel ad, probably making this the most visually stunning graphic novel of the year. Blanchet's strictly structured artistic toolbox only serves to underscore the creative skill he employs in advancing the narrative. The book's formalism compares favorably with Chris Ware's *Jimmy Corrigan*, but while Ware focuses on the foibles of humans, here it is the town of Rapide Blanc itself that takes center stage.

It's no accident that Eddie Campbell's *The Black Diamond Detective Agency* (First Second, \$16.95) reads like a movie treatment. The graphic novel is adapted from an unfilmed screenplay, and Campbell brings to vivid, snarling life this Victorian tale of gang warfare and Old West-style retribution in the streets of 1899 Chicago. A must-read for history-minded fans of nonfiction author Erik Larson's *The Devil in the White City* or of cinematic fare such as Scorsese's *Gangs of New York*.

Sticking with the retribution theme, 2007 featured a new compendium of the work of the eccentric, abusive and mostly forgotten 1930s cartoonist Fletcher Hanks, titled *I Shall Destroy All the Civilized Planets!* (Fantagraphics Books, \$19.95) after a line of particularly purple dialogue uttered by one of the book's villains. Most of the stories in this volume feature revenge at the hands of two of Hanks' bizarre, Dali-esque do-gooders: Stardust, an outer space "Super Wizard," and Fantomah, the skull-faced jungle goddess. These are comic books in their unfiltered, prewar form, a superheroic fever dream, the sort of deliciously salacious stories that made Mom chuck all the comics out when Junior left for college. In Hanks' cosmology, bad guys aren't sent packing to prison; they're changed into melting icicles or eaten by gargantuan spiders. Sure, it's garbage, but it's madcap, wish-fulfillment silliness garbage.

In every way Hanks' superheroes are ridiculous, the Eisner Award-winning first volume of *All-Star Superman* (DC Comics, \$19.99) by dream team creators Grant Morrison and Frank Quitely is sublime. Superfans turned off by the darker turn of recent superhero comics or by the moody, emo posturing of *Superman Returns* can take solace in this heartfelt, off-kilter little book that practically demands its reader recognize why the character has not only endured but thrived as the quintessential American icon through seven decades and countless reinterpretations. The titular Boy Scout is here presented as dynamic, decisive and passionate, a truly Super Man, the sort of friend you wish you had in real life. This is fun Superman, Ur-Superman, the Saturday morning Superman you wish you could have carried with you out of the *Superfriends* cartoon and into adulthood. Plus, what can beat Jimmy Olsen running around in goofy disguises?



the rest of the best

THE ESCAPISTS by Brian K. Vaughan (writer) and Jason Shawn Alexander, Eduardo Barreto, Philip Bond & Steve Rolston (artists). DARK HORSE COMICS, 2007. HARDCOVER, \$19.95.

Comic book writers writing about comic book writers may sound boring, but then, most comic book writers don't foil crimes in their spare time. The fictional world created in Michael Chabon's fantastic novel *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay* is brought lovingly to life by Vaughan and company.

THE LEAGUE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENTLEMEN: BLACK DOSSIER by Alan Moore (writer) and Kevin O'Neill (artist). DC/WILDSTORM COMICS, 2007. HARDCOVER, \$29.99.

You might need a scorecard to keep all the characters straight, but it's worth it. The third volume of Moore's instant classic continues as a super-team

composed of fictional characters from across British literature defends the Crown against threats both mundane and magical.

THE PERRY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP: THE TRIAL OF COLONEL SWEETO AND OTHER STORIES by Nicholas Gurewitch. DARK HORSE COMICS, 2007. HARDCOVER, \$14.95.

If David Lynch wrote *The Far Side*, it'd probably look a little something like this. Not for the kiddies, unless your kiddies are really, really twisted.

PHONOGRAM: RUE BRITANNIA by Kieron Gillen (writer) and Jamie McKelvie (artist). IMAGE COMICS, 2007. PAPERBACK, \$14.99.

Trendy urban wizards waging ancient wars on the dance floors of U.K. raves? Sold.

SCALPED, VOL. 1: INDIAN COUNTRY by Jason Aaron (writer) and R.M. Guéra (artist). DC/VERTIGO COMICS, 2007. PAPERBACK, \$9.99.

A new "Native American noir" entry in Vertigo's near-monopoly of thinking-people's comics follows an undercover FBI agent infiltrating the corrupt tribal police of a South Dakota reservation.

SOCK MONKEY: THE INCHES INCIDENT by Tony Millionaire. DARK HORSE COMICS, 2007. PAPERBACK, \$9.95.

Gadzooks! Victorian stuffed animals fight a pesky swarm of ants for control of their home. Charming in a macabre, Edward Gorey sort of way, and perfect for all ages.

Y: THE LAST MAN, VOL. 9: MOTHERLAND by Brian K. Vaughan (writer) and Pia Guerra & Goran Sudzuka (artists). DC/VERTIGO COMICS, 2007. PAPERBACK, \$14.99.

Wunderkind creator Vaughan's taut, post-apocalyptic sci-fi espionage series continues as hapless last man on earth Yorick Brown finally learns what killed all his fellow bearers of the Y-chromosome. — Aaron Ragan-Fore

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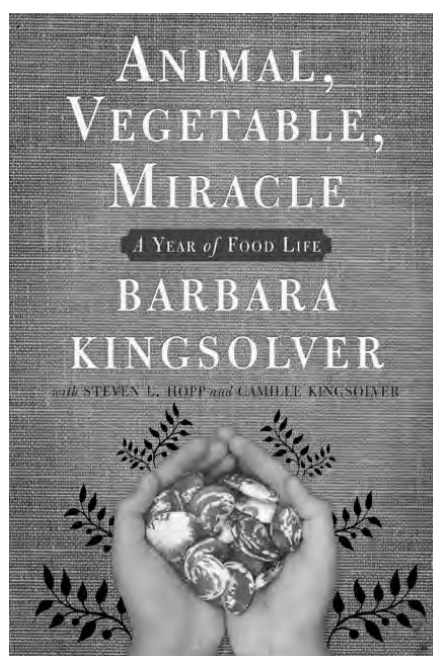
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My Farmer, Myself

ANIMAL, VEGETABLE, MIRACLE: A YEAR OF FOOD LIFE by Barbara Kingsolver, with help from Camille Kingsolver and Stephen L. Hopp. HARPERCOLLINS, 2007. HARDCOVER, \$26.95.

If you value free time, don't read this book. Because once you do, you'll become obsessed with finding local food and stocking up for winter ... Oh wait! It's totally safe to read over the holidays because the farmer's market soon closes for the season. But early in this description of the Kingsolver clan's attempt to eat locally, Barbara talks about poring over seed catalogues. In January. Which is coming up kind of soon.

While I've always enjoyed Barbara Kingsolver's works of fiction (except the second half of *The Poisonwood Bible*: Editor! Please!), her essays usually contain a more deft touch. That's partly her science training, which emerges in *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle* as well. She's a bit too scathing about the unsustainability of city-dwellers (she should check out local writer Heather C. Flores' *Food Not Lawns* for ideas about how to grow food high-on everywhere), and the self-righteous essays college-aged Camille adds show that she's definitely her mother's daughter, but the book provides inspiration to those who need a little urging to pickle beets and beans, to plant just a few more tomatoes and to spend many Saturdays getting to know local farmers and their offerings. Hopp, Kingsolver's husband, adds scientifically solid pieces about why genetically modified food truly *isn't* the answer for feeding the planet, among other contributions, and of course does half of the adult work on the farm.

Read this in tandem with *Plenty: One Man, One Woman, and A Raucous Year of Eating Locally* by Alisa Smith and J.B. MacKinnon, and soon you'll be growing as much as you can, gently urging Market of Choice or Kiva to stock a lot more local food and perhaps dealing with the reality of turkey from farm to holiday table. Seasonal recipes round out each section, recipes you can also get at the book's website (www.animalvegetablemiracle.com) and, now, make with

the corn you froze, the squash you grew and the kale or chard that's out there sweetening in the frost. — *Suzi Steffen*

Mostly Everything Is Illuminated

READING COMICS: HOW GRAPHIC NOVELS WORK AND WHAT THEY MEAN by Douglas Wolk. DA CAPO PRESS, 2007. HARDCOVER, \$22.95.

I fell into Douglas Wolk's friendly, uncommonly accessible book about graphic novels much as I do into a good graphic novel: wholeheartedly and quickly, with an eye to both the familiar and the strange, the comforting and the disconcerting. Wolk is an enthusiast, and his love of comics comes through on every page, even when he's disparaging the lesser work out there or looking down his nose — with a wry smile — at some of the worst superhero clichés. He's not afraid to criticize or to be a total fanboy, and it's this realistic and intelligent appreciation that makes his book such a pleasure to read.

The first half of *Reading Comics* is part history, part theory, and presents Wolk's division of the comics world: on the one hand, superhero comics, with their years of history and convoluted timelines; on the other, art comics, more concerned with expressing the perspective of the artist than with the established characters and relationships of superhero books. It's a simple line to draw, and a useful one. He discusses the escapism of comics, the metaphors, the psychology, the design and art, and then, in the book's second half, takes what he's explained and applies it to a generous selection of books. It's not exhaustive; as Wolk explains, it's just a group of books, largely falling on the art comics side of the divide, that he finds interesting to talk about, reaching from the precise aesthetic of Chris Ware to the memoir of Alison Bechdel to the sprawling world-building of Carla Speed O'Neill and the groundbreaking work of Will Eisner. Even Wolk, though, can't make Grant Morrison's brilliant, dizzying *The Invisibles* any less dense; reading a few sentences from the chapter on this series out of context is, appropriately, as confusing as a single page from one of Morrison's books would be.

Reading Comics comes at a perfect time as comics gain mainstream appeal and admirers and as creators continue to take their work in new directions, tackling new topics and trying more and more new things. Wolk is perceptive and calm, possessed of an uncanny ability to express why he loves what he does and how comics work or don't with clarity and humor. Like an issue of a long-running superhero series, there's plenty here to grab and keep the attention of a newcomer, but under the surface, there are additional layers for those who know the story's past. — *Molly Templeton*



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THE NEXT RODEO: NEW AND SELECTED ESSAYS

by William Kittredge. GRAYWOLF PRESS, 2007. PAPERBACK, \$15.

William Kittredge grew up a rancher in southeastern Oregon but became a writer. And what a writer! Reading these essays blasts through any illusions about cowboys, about ranching, about how, exactly, the beautiful landscape of eastern Oregon became the blasted, irrigation-bloated, salmon-destroying place where farmers, Native Americans and environmentalists battle it out for control of now-scarce resources. Actually, a large part of the destruction, Kittredge says, comes directly from his family and his father, who was renowned for his innovative ways of irrigation and farming. But Kittredge was so tuned out of the necessities of the farm and ranch that when he left the Klamath Falls area for college at OSU, he had no idea what his agriculture professors were talking about when they referred to his father.

Kittredge, who taught creative writing for 29 years at the University of Montana and coined the term "Last Best Place" for that state, knows he's no longer welcome at the table in the land that birthed and shaped him. He left for the Iowa Writers' Workshop when he was 33, and as a consequence, he can write forbiddingly gorgeous things about ranching and his father's agricultural plans. Things like, "We were doing God's labor and creating a good place on earth, living the pastoral yeoman's dream — that's how our mythology defined it, although nobody would ever have thought to talk about work in that way. And then it all went dead."

In the multi-part "White People in Paradise," Kittredge takes on the mythology of a landscape dominated by white men (and he does mean men, who treat women only as mirrors). "We must learn to step on our anger," he writes. "We need to acknowledge that our populations are stunningly various, with enormously diverse ideas and dreams about the future. We need to name those dreams and fold them one by one into our agendas." These self-examined but never self-indulgent essays, bright, strong and agonized, deconstruct the self, the landscape and the mythos of the West — and could, perhaps, lead to salvation. — *Suzi Steffen*

Unfamiliar Treasures

AT LARGE AND AT SMALL: FAMILIAR ESSAYS

by Anne Fadiman. FARRAR, STRAUS & GIRoux, 2007. HARDCOVER, \$22.

In a new collection — this one of "familiar essays," a form the author fears is dying — Anne Fadiman brings her light touch and curious spirit to a broader set of topics than those discussed in her 2000 book, *Ex Libris*, which was, solely and enjoyably, about books and reading. But while *At Large and At Small* is ostensibly about topics as varied as a childhood love for collecting things from the natural world and a fascination with Arctic explorers, it is always, in some way, about books. Fadiman quotes, she borrows, she reads, she lists her sources in the back in such a way that an enchanted reader may find herself wanting to read all of those, too. (A frustrated writer may be glad to see the sources simply because they do a bit to belie the enviable ease with which these pieces seem to be written.)



Fadiman turns her attention, her cheery and informed tone, to the essays of Charles Lamb, the biography of Samuel Taylor Coleridge, ice cream, coffee, postage and moving, investigating her own interest in things alongside the things themselves without ever tipping the balance too far to the personal or the objective. "Night Owl" is particularly charming as she addresses the issues of being an owl married to a lark and the mechanics of our internal clocks. New York figures heavily into several pieces, including one about the unfamiliar feeling of wanting, after 9/11, to fly a flag. The closing piece, "Under Water," is a snapshot of a heartbreak, a horrible moment that exposes both the instant in which everything can change and the length of time a change can continue to affect a person. This is a book for the curious, the unflagging readers, the collectors of interesting bits of knowledge and for those who find joy in the least likely things. Like *Ex Libris*, it's a tiny treasure. — *Molly Templeton*



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NEW BRUNSWICK, NEW JERSEY, GOODBYE: BANDS, DIRTY BASEMENTS, AND THE SEARCH FOR SELF

memoir by Ronen Kauffman. HOPELESS RECORDS/SUB CITY RECORDS, 2007. PAPERBACK, \$16.

A good read for people who enjoy punk rock books like *I, Shithead* or movies like *American Hardcore*, in *NBNJG* we experience the mid to late '90s early emo, ska punk scene through a college-age Kauffman as he lives it. I particularly enjoyed the funny scenes, like the vegan straightedge band being pelted by empty yogurt cups and beer cans. Familiarity with the bands is not necessary, as music was more of the setting than a character, but knowledge of the scene would definitely enhance enjoyment. — *Vanessa Salvia*

ROSIE LITTLE'S CAUTIONARY TALES FOR GIRLS

short stories by Danielle Wood. MACADAM CAGE, 2007. HARDCOVER, \$18.75.

These dreamy little stories, linked by their saucy narrator, who likes to interrupt, investigate the ups and downs of the likes of virginity, truth, love, commitment, work and destiny. Rosie Little's perky tone borrows a bit from Miss Manners as she instructs and advises, but her observations blend with pieces of fairy tales into something entirely different. This is an enticing little book, full of familiar moments, awkward situations and tiny bits of magic. These are stories, as Rosie says, for "girls who have boots as stout as their hearts." As should we all, really. — *Molly Templeton*

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Mind Over Music
**MUSICOPHILIA: TALES OF
MUSIC AND THE BRAIN** by Oliver
Sacks. KNOPF, 2007. HARDCOVER, \$26.

Music is not necessary for human life to exist. It has no symbols, images or representations. And yet, for all music's apparent uselessness, it makes humanity what it is; we are a species of musicophiliacs. That is, we love music for what it does to us emotionally, spiritually, physiologically. But what interests Oliver Sacks here, as it interested him in *The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat* and earlier works, is the many variations in how individual brains process internal and external stimuli (this time the stimulus is music). Time and time again in *Musicophilia*, Sacks reaches the same conclusion: Music seems to transcend the brain and enrich and enhance our concrete sense of self.

As is particular with Sacks, he focuses on case studies, usually patients he has had over the many years he has held private practice. Most have had lifelong maladies, such as John S., a young man with Tourette's syndrome whose uncontrollable tics are tempered by "certain kinds of music heavy with rhythm," while others have had split-second disasters affect their brains in profoundly curious ways. Tony Cicoria, a surgeon with no musical inclinations, is transformed into an obsessive composer and piano prodigy after he is struck by lightning. But perhaps the most intriguing and bittersweet case Sacks describes is that of Clive Wearing, who, due to an attack of herpes encephalitis, has anterograde and retrograde amnesia; he remembers very little of his past and can make no new memories. Clive has an attention span of about 15 seconds and yet, almost miraculously, he can sing, conduct small orchestras, play his piano. Through music, Clive finds a present light to grasp onto from the brink of darkness. Sacks' tome, textbookish in its breadth, lends credence to what T.S. Eliot writes in *The Four Quartets*: "You are the music / While the music lasts." — *Chuck Adams*

Milton's Wet Dream
**THE SHOCK DOCTRINE: THE RISE
OF DISASTER CAPITALISM** by
Naomi Klein. METROPOLITAN BOOKS, 2007. HARDCOVER, \$28.

It seems at once absurd and absurdly low, the price of this new book by journalist Naomi Klein (*No Logo*). Americans

aren't used to spending \$28 for a book thanks to the curious lag in hardcover prices compared to inflation. And it's so painful to read Klein's book, a narrative tying torture to economic theory, that even the hopeful final chapter barely rouses a flickering flame of optimism. Who would pay for *that*? Yet for her meticulously researched tome, for her clarity in explaining just how Milton Friedman and his minions came to dominate world economic discourse by throwing their lot in with the ilk of Augusto Pinochet, whatever recompense she earns can't be enough.

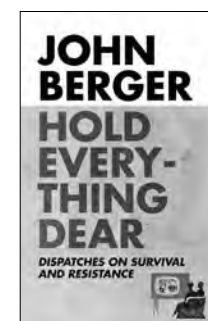


It's a global view, her discussion of shock economics, and its theory is clear: Friedman's Chicago School disciples believe free-market capitalism is the answer to every problem. But many governments try to

regulate or soften free markets. In order to remake a state for unrestrained free-market capitalism, the people must be less able to resist. And that happens after a crisis — say, Pinochet's coup in 1973 (and other U.S.-funded dirty wars in Latin America) or, obviously, Sept. 11. Klein links the sudden rise in fortunes of rapacious transnational companies (Jeremy Scahill's *Blackwater* would be a great companion read) to their ability to capitalize on disasters. The Friedmanites don't cause the disasters; they're just incredibly well-prepared to take advantage of chaos. But, Klein notes, people and governments in Latin America are fighting back — and so can we. Friedman would *hate* it if you used the "socialized" library services to check out *Shock Doctrine* or if you banded with friends to purchase it. Small gestures indeed, but another economist, E.F. Schumacher, reminds us that small is beautiful. Or perhaps powerful: Friedman stood only 5 feet tall. — *Suzi Steffen*

Attention Must Be Paid
HOLD EVERYTHING DEAR:
**DISPATCHES ON SURVIVAL AND
RESISTANCE** by John Berger. PANTHEON,

2007. HARDCOVER, \$21.



This slim volume of essays and elliptically crafted thoughts alternately provokes and reassures. Berger, most famous for *Ways of Seeing*, addresses with his characteristic power everything

from September 11 to the reasons suicide bombers might choose that path. I found it challenging to stay with him as he bounced between the 2005 bombings in London and the outrageous police state occasioned in Britain by the War on Terror, but his thoughtful meditations on the despair of the poor (especially Palestinians) give power to a narrative Americans rarely get to hear.

One of the reasons Berger seems so provocative, clearly, is that much of the

Western world celebrates the unrestrained versions of capitalism that Berger, a Marxist (on which he elaborates in the essays), finds both horrifying and dislocating. But, he points out, Marxism predicted that capitalism will have its day, and much of the deracination, human suffering and slavery inherent to modern-day consumer culture needs some sort of framework, some sort of hope. Berger's hope lies in paying attention to the everyday and the ordinary, what individuals go through trying to find food for themselves and their children, how violence disrupts lives from the West Bank to London to Istanbul.

When I presented on *Ways of Seeing* in a freshman art history seminar, one classmate freaked out at the suggestion that lust for *things* might lead to exploitation. So it is with *Hold Everything Dear*: Some critics have reacted with disdain for Berger's honoring of Palestinian lives, as if talking about the horrors of occupied life somehow means the speaker cares nothing for Israelis or the history of anti-Semitism. Nor do his attempts to justify suicide bombing help on that front. But in general, the last thing Berger wants to do is dehumanize anyone; his slow, allusive essays build a picture of someone who loves others with depth and a commitment to a better world. It's easy to disagree with Berger, but his ideas in this book deserve attention. — *Suzi Steffen*

Reading For Pleasure

THE HUMBLE LITTLE CONDOM: A HISTORY by Aine Collier. PROMETHEUS BOOKS, 2007. PAPERBACK, \$18.95.

What weighs less than a quarter, comes in a rainbow of fruit flavors and could save your life? A condom, of course! Historian, educator and literary damsel Aine Collier has stretched the

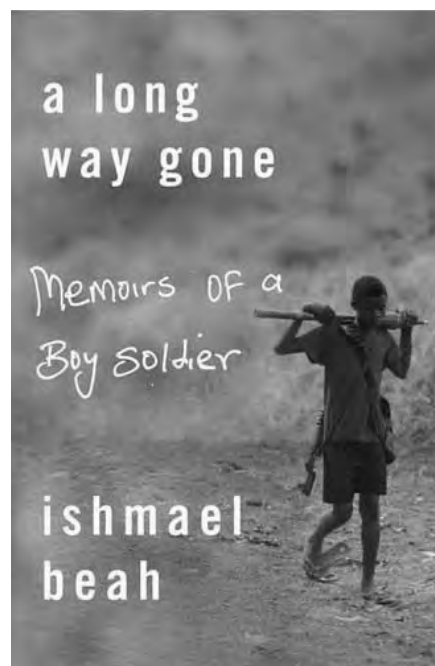


rubbery boundaries of high school health-class knowledge that limit most people's prophylactic familiarity in her historical overview, *The Humble Little Condom*. Readable as either a flip-through, sidebars-and-pictures experience or as a linear journey from ancient Egypt to the present state of sheathly affairs, Collier's book entertains as it enlightens, capturing a tone that honors the serious relevance of these little devices while at the same time acknowledging the fun and spicy nature of the acts for which they are designed.

A few little-known facts: Malcolm X supported himself during the Depression by selling condoms at local Boston dance halls; prior to the use of latex, condoms were secured by a little pink ribbons woven around the open edge; a British company is currently piloting an erection-enhancing Viagra condom, designed to reduce whining from "decreased sensation" camps. But far from being a collection of condom trivia, this book tells rich and detailed stories about the people who made and sold condoms, the people who used condoms and the people who thought no one should use condoms. From the days of papyrus and animal bladder sheaths to the AIDS crisis, the humble little condom has been with us a very long time and witnessed a cross section of history that many people, even today, are too shy to talk about.

What this book ultimately reveals is that a history of contraception and disease prevention is, in fact, a highly intimate human history, encompassing issues of gender, sexuality, morality, class,

religion, law, medicine, social movements; the list goes on and on. Collier's wit imbues *The Humble Little Condom* with enough wink-nudge humor to keep it highly readable, but it is her intellectual rigor that gives the book its magnificent scope and depth, making it a special and decidedly recommended bit of winter reading. — *Adrienne van der Valk*



Let Them Lead the Way

A LONG WAY GONE: MEMOIRS OF A BOY SOLDIER by Ishmael Beah. FARRAR, STRAUS & GIRDUX, 2007. HARDCOVER, \$22. A NEW YORK TIMES NOTABLE BOOK OF 2007.

No matter how much you've read or watched about child soldiers, Ishmael Beah's memoir will chill your blood. To quote the book's blurb, "This is how wars are fought now: by children, traumatized, hopped-up on drugs, and wielding AK-47s." Jesus.

Not that Jesus, or anyone else who might care or offer aid, seems much in evi-

dence as Beah's life in Sierra Leone collapses during a war that sweeps everything away — family, friends, villages, everything. Neighboring Liberia and Guinea also get sucked into the conflict, which began in 1991, when Beah was 11, and theoretically ended in 2002 with a truce. For a time, Beah and other boys he met as he ran from his destroyed village escaped being recruited either by the rebels (RUF) or the government forces. Both sides used child soldiers heavily, relying on drugs, random violence and calculated psychological control to keep the youth violent at the desired times. The government gets Beah first. He describes how he started taking "white capsules" that gave him energy and sniffing "brown brown" (cocaine mixed with gunpowder) while learning to shoot, to crawl through the forest, to kill on command. And there were other training methods: "We watched movies at night. War movies: *Rambo: First Blood*, *Rambo II*, *Commando*, and so on ... We all wanted to be like Rambo; we couldn't wait to implement his techniques." Because time eclipsed for him while he was in this drugged state, it's hard to follow exactly what occurred to him, but his narrative isn't just about his experiences at war.

He and other government army boys were taken into Freetown by UNICEF, which was trying to rehabilitate child soldiers. That proved massively challenging, but Beah's own healing began when a nurse brought him some cassettes and a Walkman. Soon, he was speaking at international conferences on child soldiers, but fighting broke out in the capital, and he barely escaped the country when he was 18. This memoir of his life provides horrifying examples of what happens when arms traffic meets the diamond trade and when adults let go of the humanity that should keep children safe. — *Suzi Steffen*

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Charles Dickens "A Christmas Carol" A Dramatic Reading

Image courtesy of David Krapes

December 20, 2007, 7:00P.M.
Eugene Garden Club
1645 High St. Eugene

Time travel to 1856 Eugene City with visiting "Englishman Thomas Hutchinson, Amateur Thespian" (Al LePage) presenting the timeless holiday classic.

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What's Bugging You? **RIDDLED WITH LIFE: FRIENDLY WORMS, LADYBUG SEX, AND THE PARASITES THAT MAKE US WHO WE ARE**

by Marlene Zuk. HARCOURT, 2007. HARDCOVER, \$25.

Marlene Zuk, an evolutionary biologist and noted science writer, gives new meaning to the phrase "invading your personal space." In *Riddled With Life*, she elucidates the astonishing number of ways in which humans coexist with parasites and bacteria and corrects the thinking that "bacteria are bad." Human evolution has been influenced and even led by microscopic creatures who evolved along with us and became essential to our existence. In fact, sex itself evolved due to the influence of parasites.

Zuk explains how a child's immune system grows strong through early exposure to germs and common household grime. In an environment that's too clean, a bored immune system has nothing to do but turn on itself, which partially explains the growing incidence of asthma and other autoimmune diseases. I love having ammunition like that when I want to put off mopping and vacuuming!

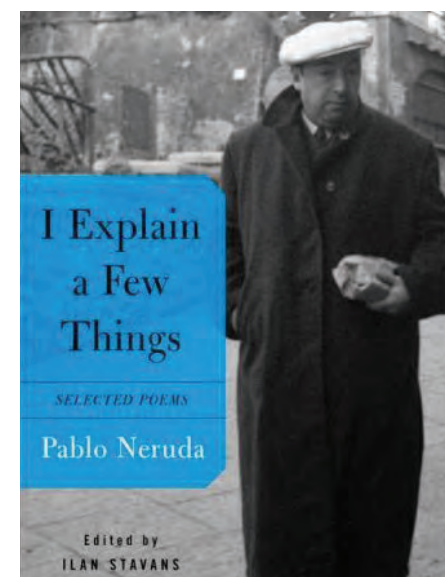
She offers numerous examples of the influence of parasites on genetics, explaining why males of so many species have fancy ornamentation (like a peacock's tail) and also carry more parasites. Or how people with Crohn's disease who were medically treated with whipworm eggs experienced remission of their symptoms. There were so many fascinating examples I couldn't stop reading them out loud to whoever was in the room with me at the time.

While Zuk is extremely apt at writing for the non-scientist, the facts and figures packed into each paragraph at times left me feeling as if I was back in college anticipating a pop quiz. Sadly, most of my college textbooks weren't this interesting.

The organisms that cause disease also contribute to our health in mysterious ways. They are alive, with their own evolutionary agenda, and yet their fates

intertwine with our own. We can never lead bacteria- or parasite-free lives, and we shouldn't even try. — Vanessa Salvia

poetry



Chilean Bard

I EXPLAIN A FEW THINGS: SELECTED POEMS by Pablo Neruda. Edited by Ilan Stavans. FARRAR, STRAUS & GIROUX, 2007. PAPERBACK, \$16.

Pablo Neruda's oeuvre gets a close reading by noted Latin American scholar Ilan Stavans, who writes that his objective was to "distill [Neruda's] exuberance to its most essential while producing a book affordable to young people." For students of Spanish language and literature, *I Explain a Few Things* offers the appeal of being a bilingual edition, but it can be appreciated by a wide range of passionate readers.

From 1924's *Twenty Love Poems and a Song of Despair* through 1973's *Winter Garden*, Stavans cherry-picks poems from Neruda's canon with an eye for what he describes as the poet's "ideological odyssey." Bearing witness to the greatest upheavals in the 20th century should make for an opinionated pundit, and Neruda certainly knows his enemies (Franco, Pinochet, Nixon) from his compadres (Stalin, Castro, Allende). But Neruda was never programmatic, preferring odes to edicts, senses to scripts. "I am a pale and artless poet," Neruda humorously noted in "The Great Urinator," "not here to work out riddles / or recommend special umbrellas."

His early powerhouse "Tonight I Can Write" succinctly sums up in one line ("Love is so short, forgetting is so long") the romantic trappings of memory and lost loves. But, for Neruda, there were topics greater than love. The titular poem carefully explains his mid-career shift from aesthetic poems to social justice poems. Answering his own rhetorical question on why he won't write about dreams or the fruit of his motherland, Neruda writes in repeated refrains: "Come and see the blood in the streets."

In "Ode to Salt," Neruda takes kitchen sink liberals to task. "In the salt mines / I saw the salt / in this shaker," he writes, noting that solidarity with the workers must extend beyond the breakfast table. When he writes "I too knew homelessness" in the poem, "The Saddest Century," Neruda is speaking of exile, not vagrancy, but both, he implies, are born from the same evils. — Chuck Adams

Need a little help with a **big** idea for your neighborhood?



The City of Eugene's **Neighborhood Matching Grants** program is accepting proposals for community improvement projects such as parks, playgrounds, gardens or events. Your neighbors and sponsors provide half of the cash/materials/labor and the City will match it.

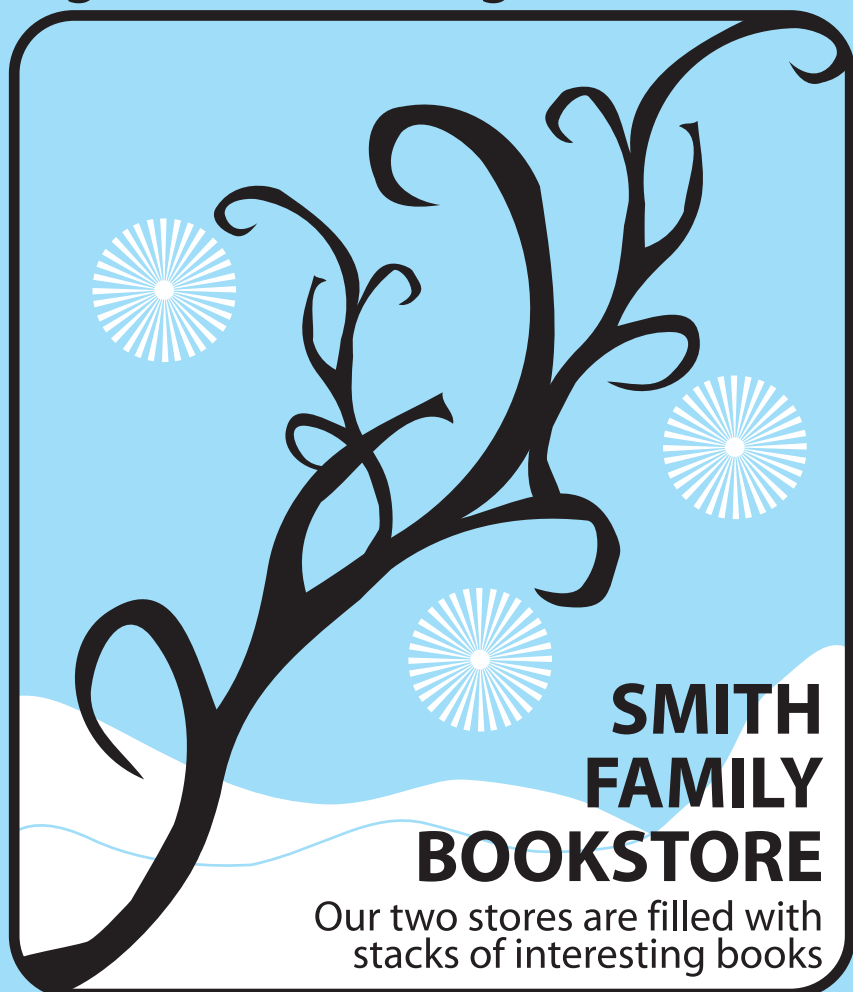


Pre-review deadline for all applicants is **February 25, 2008.**

Grant packets are now available at www.eugene-or.gov/matching-grants, at City libraries, community centers, and the Atrium Building at 99 W. 10th Ave.

Want to learn more? Contact Michael Kinnison, City Neighborhood Services, at 682-5009 with additional questions.

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THE ZOOKEEPER'S WIFE: A WAR STORY, nonfiction by Diane Ackerman. W.W. NORTON & COMPANY, 2007. HARDBACK, \$24.95.

Diane Ackerman (*A Natural History of the Senses*) is famous enough that she can pretty much write whatever she wants. In *Zookeeper's Wife*, she has a perfect opportunity to recreate the largely unknown (to Americans) world of wartime Warsaw, the fear and anguish and suffering of those trying to resist the Nazis, the courage of the family running the Warsaw Zoo, where hundreds of Jews escaped the death camps. Yet her writing skills don't lend themselves to reconstruction, and her clumsy attempts don't come off well, to put it mildly (a class in the UO's Literary Nonfiction program might be called for, methinks). Luckily, the story she has to tell, and the details with which she tells it, compel attention anyway.

— Suzi Steffen

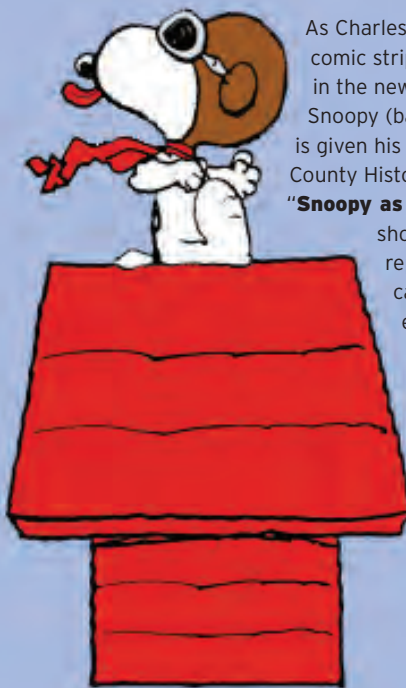
WHAT'S happening



Happy Holidays – no, too generic. Happy Xmas! No, too dirty. Happy Festivus! No, that's been corporatized. Happy Whatever! No, too indifferent, too Scroogey. Wait, we got it: Happy Solstice! Its nondemoninational, somewhat paganistic but not too much – it's what Christmas used to be about before the creation of the Sears catalog – and we get to celebrate the fact that, *finally*, the days will soon begin to get *longer* as opposed to depressingly shorter. This year's winter solstice isn't until Dec. 22, but – why not? – you can celebrate it a

week early at the Museum of Natural & Cultural History's **Winter Solstice Celebration** at the Many Nations Longhouse on Friday. With games, crafts and storytelling on the bill, the museum's celebration is sure to be an enlightening evening for families of all stripes. But for those who would like a bit more pagan in their pantyhose, there's the WOW Hall's **Winter Solstice Goddess Celebration**, which admittedly sounds as Eugenean as the S.L.U.G. Queen Coronation, happening *the night before* the solstice, on Dec. 21. Jeez, for a holiday that worships calendars and dates and time, you'd think they could at least have something happening on the actual day. See Friday Calendar.

For many U.S. citizens, the President's impeachment is long overdue. How many more people need to die, how many more trillions of dollars need be spent, how many more civil liberties and constitutional rights need we do away with before one man is given this much-needed slap on the wrist? His successor, of course, would be much worse, so we'll need to toss him, too. Hmmm, so that gets us Nancy Pelosi ... but should we reward her for taking impeachment "off the table," calling it a "waste of time"? The Dems seem to be in the grip of fear on this one. If they move to impeach, and it looks bad, they might not get re-elected. But regular citizens don't have to be re-elected (thank gawd!) so we can put on our dancing shoes and hit the WOW Hall for a **Dance for Impeachment** benefit concert for the Iraq Veterans Against the War, featuring a lineup of DJs – including organizer The Audio Schizophrenic and Michael Human (pictured below) – plus speakers, musicians, artists, dancers and a community speak-out. Now here's a bumper sticker: "Support our troops: Dance your ass off." See Thursday, Dec. 13 Calendar.



As Charles M. Schulz, creator of the beloved comic strip *Peanuts*, is given the royal treatment in the new biography *Schulz and Peanuts*, Snoopy (based on Schulz's boyhood dog, Spike) is given his own due as a fighter pilot in Lane County Historical Society & Museum's new exhibit, **"Snoopy as the World War I Flying Ace."** The show features more than 40 digital reprints of Snoopy donning his pilot's cap, scarf and goggles and flying over enemy territory, eluding The Red Baron, from the top of his doghouse. In addition to the exhibit, which will include Snoopy memorabilia from local Janice Ellis' extensive collection, local cartoonist Jan Eliot, creator of *Stone Soup*, will speak on Saturday. See Art in the Galleries listings and Saturday Calendar.



David Jacobs-Strain plays Sam Bond's Thursday, Dec. 20

13 THURSDAY

Sunrise 7:39am; Sunset 4:34pm
Av High 46; Av Low 33

BENEFIT The Wild: A Benefit for Jeff Luers & The Shac 7, discussion and music by The Blair Street Mugwumps, Riot Folk, The Spins, more, 7pm, Cozmic Pizza. \$5-\$20.

FOOD/DRINK Wine tasting: Italian wines, 5pm-9pm, WineStyles. \$5.

GATHERINGS Willamette Valley Chapter of the Project Management Institute monthly meeting, 5:45pm, Symantec, 555 International Way, Spfd. FREE.

Cascade Mycological Society hosts a presentation by Terry Gatchell on collecting & cooking wild mushrooms, 7pm, Rm. 115, Bldg 16, LCC. FREE.

Helios Resource Network Open House: food, drink, comedy, 5pm-9pm, 1192 Lawrence. FREE.

Hearing Loss Assoc. of Lane County's Holiday Potluck & Gift Exchange, 7pm, Hilyard Community Center. Bring dish for 10 people & gift under \$5 value.

WAND sponsors a Women Speak Out auction in honor of significant women in politics, past & present, 7pm, DIVA. 514-3102. FREE.

MUSIC Kusinhira Youth Ensemble, 12:15pm, Hult Center lobby. FREE.

Dance for Impeachment, benefit concert for Iraq Veterans Against the War, feat. Michael Human, Sonny & The Moonlighters, The Audio Schizophrenic, Dawn Baby, Opium Sunset, more, 8pm, WOW Hall. \$8 adv., \$12 door.

Testface, Devon Williams, 9pm, Sam Bond's. 21+. \$3-\$5.

4 local female DJs: Moonvoid, Lelu Laserlight, DJ Layla, DJ KaatSkratch, 9pm, Diablo's Downtown Lounge. 21+. \$3.

ON THE AIR "The Jefferson Exchange" discusses Irish culture and Christmas in Ireland, 9am & 9pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

"New Dimensions" discusses *Our Natural Goodness* w/Sylvia Boorstein, 6:30pm, KLCC 89.7 FM.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION Community Climb Time, learn or improve rock climbing skills, 5:50pm-8:30pm, Kelly Middle School. All ages. Gear provided. 682-5329. \$5.

THEATER "A Celtic Holiday," feat. music by Linda Danielson & Chico Schwall and storytelling w/David Stuart Bull, 9:30pm today and Dec. 17-20; 3pm tomorrow, Dec. 15 and 21-22, Café Soriah. 342-4410. \$10.

It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play, 7:30pm today, tomorrow and Dec. 15; 2pm Dec. 16, Lord Leebrick Theatre. 465-1506. \$12-\$17.

The Wizard of Oz, 8pm today, tomorrow and Dec. 15; 2pm Dec. 16, Cottage Theater, Cottage Grove. www.cottagetheater.org \$16-\$19.

14 FRIDAY

Sunrise 7:40am; Sunset 4:35pm
Av High 46; Av Low 33

ARTS/VISUAL Tim Boyden's Holiday Studio Sale, fine interior furniture, 11am-5pm today & tomorrow, 1568 Fairmount Blvd. FREE.

A reception for "Travels Through the Pacific Coast States," paintings by Renee Manford, and other work by Carol Plaia, Sylvia Casilla & B.J. Burnett, 5:30pm, Emerald Art Center, Spfd. FREE.

DANCE Eugene Youth Ballet performs *The Nutcracker*, 1pm, Campbell Center. FREE.

Eugene Youth Ballet performs *The Nutcracker*, 4pm & 6pm, Barnes & Noble. FREE.

FILM Improvised Music & Moving Image Fest, 8pm today & tomorrow, DIVA. \$5, \$3 stu.

FOOD/DRINK Wine tasting: Red blends from Oregon, 3pm-10pm today & tomorrow, Oregon Wine Warehouse. \$12+.

Wine tasting: Italian wines, 5pm-7pm, The Broadway. FREE.

Wine tasting: Spanish wines, 4pm-6pm, WineStyles. FREE.

Wine tasting: Port & Madeira, 6:30pm, Midtown Marketplace. FREE.

GATHERINGS Winter Solstice Celebration, feat. winter games, crafts, storytelling & performances, 5pm, Many Nations Longhouse, UO. 346-3024. \$3, \$5 family.

Helios' Green Drinks progressives social, 5pm, World Café. FREE.

"How to Release an Album," panel discussion, 7pm, WOW Hall. FREE.

KIDS/FAMILIES The Nutcracker storytimes w/Kelly Terwilliger and the Eugene Youth Ballet, 4pm, Barnes & Noble. FREE.

MUSIC Benefit concert for Gopaul Das, feat. The Conjugal Visitors, Fearless Love, Matura & Devotees, Sunheart, w/vegetarian feast, 6pm, Eugene Waldorf School, 1350 McLean Blvd. Don.

Misty River presents "Songs of Christmas," 7:30pm, Hult Center. 682-5000. \$16-\$20.

Alfonso Maya & Dan Howard, 8:30pm, Cozmic Pizza. \$8.

Laura Kemp & T.R. Kelly, 9pm, Sam Bond's. 21+. \$6.

Sirens Echo CD release show, w/Animal Farm, Rocket One, more, 9pm, John Henry's. 21+. \$5.

ON THE AIR "The Jefferson Exchange" discusses fragmenting cultural boundaries in California, 9am & 9pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

SOCIAL DANCES Holiday Dance for ages 18 and up (designed for individuals with developmental disabilities), 6:30pm, Hilyard Community Center. 682-5311. \$5.

Social dance, 6:30pm lessons; 7:30pm-11:30pm open dance, Elks Club Ballroom, 1701 Centennial, Spfd. \$8.

Dances of the Balkans, feat. Kef, 8pm, Agate Hall, 18th & Agate. \$5 sug. don.

Salsa dance, feat. music by Los Cumbiameros, 9pm, Tango Center, 194 W. Broadway. \$10.

THEATER *A Christmas Carol*, Broadway musical version, 7:30pm today, tomorrow and Dec. 21-22; 2pm Dec. 16, Actors Cabaret. 683-4368. \$14-\$17, \$30.95-\$32.95 (dinner seating).

A (Cracked) Christmas Carol, 7pm today & tomorrow; 2pm Dec. 16, Pleasant Hill Community Theater, 35575 Zephyr Way. www.phct.org \$15 incl. dessert/beverages.

The Best Christmas Pagaent Ever, 7:30pm today & tomorrow and Dec. 21-22; 2pm Dec. 16 & 22, Actors Cabaret Youth Stage., 39 W. 10th Ave. 683-4368. \$11, \$8 under age 12.

Twelfth Night, 7pm today & tomorrow at Spencer Butte Middle School Theater; 2pm tomorrow & Dec. 16 at Cozmic Pizza. 986-6616. FREE.

"A Celtic Holiday" continues. See Thursday, Dec. 13.

It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play continues. See Thursday, Dec. 13.

The Wizard of Oz continues. See Thursday, Dec. 13.

15 SATURDAY

Sunrise 7:41am; Sunset 4:35pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33

ARTS/VISUAL Opening of "Snoopy as the World War I Flying Ace" exhibit, 10am, Lane County Historical Society & Museum. 682-4242. \$3, \$2 sr., \$7.5 youth.

Tim Boyden's Holiday Studio Sale continues. See Friday.

COMEDY The Comedy Workout presents "Generic Holiday Comedy," 8pm, Diablo's Downtown Lounge. 21+. \$3.

DANCE Oregon Ballet Academy's all-children *Sleeping Beauty*, 2pm & 7pm today, 1pm & 6pm tomorrow, Performance Hall, LCC. www.oregonballetacademy.com or 338-7800. \$15, \$12 stu., child.

FILM IMMI Fest continues. See Friday.

FOOD/DRINK Saturday Samplers: Spiced & mulled wines, noon, WineStyles. FREE.

OWW's wine tasting continues. See Friday.

GATHERINGS Saturday Market's Holiday Market, 10am-6pm, featuring hundreds of booths, international food court and performances by Willagillespie School Choir, Sacred Harp Singers, Sweet Aloha, Geoffrey Mays, Olem Alves & Inner Limits, Rob Tobias & The Blueside, Janet Naylor & Cascade Harp

Ensemble, Richard Crandell and Brian Cutean, Lane County Fairgrounds. www.holidaymarket.org FREE.

Holiday Farmers' Market, 10am-6pm today, tomorrow and Dec. 22-23, Lane County Fairgrounds. 431-4923. FREE.

A Walk for Christmas Peace, 10am, starts at Cottage Grove Community Center, 700 Gibbs. FREE.

KSOW Holiday Market, 10am-4pm, 517 E. Main St., Cottage Grove. 942-1067. FREE.

5th St. Market Holiday Extravaganza, with Pleasant Hill Jazz Choirs, holiday elf reading circle, photos with Santa, more, 11am-4pm, 5th. St. Market. FREE.

KIDS/FAMILIES Holiday open house w/arts & crafts, noon-4pm, Science Factory. FREE.

Kids' Winter Nature Craft Day, 1pm-3pm, Eugene Garden Club, 1645 High St. RSVP, 747-1504. \$5 per child (adults free w/child).

LECTURE Jan Eliot speaks on cartooning, 2pm, Lane County Historical Society & Museum. \$3, \$2 sr., \$7.5 youth.

LGBT Rainbow River Womyn meeting, 5pm, McMenamins North Bank. 741-1210. FREE.

MUSIC Atrium Amateur Hour: Holiday Music, 2pm, Atrium, 10th & Olive. FREE.

WOW Hall Membership Party, feat. Forgotten Works, Cassandra Robertson, Trunkful of Faces Puppet Theater, Queen Accordiona, more, 7pm, WOW Hall. \$15 incl. membership, \$10 guests of members, FREE members.

Eugene Symphony presents Yuletide Celebration, 7:30pm today and 2:30pm tomorrow, Hult Center. \$15+.

Oregon Tuba Association performs Tuba Holiday Music, 7:30pm, The Shedd, 868 High. FREE (canned food, socks, gloves,



Queen Accordiona hosts Accordion-Okie at the WOW Hall's Membership Party Saturday

Heart of the Valley Children's Choir's performs their Holiday Concert at OSU's LaSells Stewart Center Saturday. See Corvallis listings



calendar

tarp or hat donations encouraged).

Alfonso Maya & Dan Howard, benefit for MKAC, 8pm, Maude Kerns Art Center, 1910 E. 15th. \$5.

The Fast Computers & Tom Heint host a Xmas Variety Show, 9:30pm, Sam Bond's. 21+. \$5.

SOCIAL DANCES Jose Cruz salsa dance, 9pm, Cozmic Pizza. \$5.

THEATER *The Wizard of Oz* continues. See Thursday, Dec. 13.

"A Celtic Holiday" continues. See Thursday, Dec. 13.

It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play continues. See Thursday, Dec. 13.

ACE's *A Christmas Carol* continues. See Friday.

A (Cracked) Christmas Carol continues. See Friday.

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever continues. See Friday.

Twelfth Night continues. See Friday.

16 SUNDAY

Sunrise 7:42am; Sunset 4:35pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33

DANCE Oregon Ballet Academy's *Sleeping Beauty* continues. See Saturday.

FILM *Hiroshima Mon Amour*, 7pm, DIVA. FREE.

GATHERINGS Saturday Market's Holiday Market, 10am-6pm, featuring hundreds of booths, international food court and performances by Eugene YWA; Chip Cohen & Kenny Sokolof; Sun Bossa Septet; Accordions Anonymous; Tonn Nua; Apocalypse, Robert Meade; Chip Cohen and Janet Naylor, Lane County Fairgrounds. www.holidaymarket.org FREE.

Piccadilly Flea Market, 10am-4pm, Lane County Fairgrounds. \$1.50.

ESSN/JWJ Holiday Party, w/memorial to Lucy Lahr, potluck, raffle, silent auction, speakers,



Heckle Charlton Heston at the Heckler's Movie Night showing of *The Omega Man* at The Wandering Goat Wednesday

music, more, 2pm-5pm, OEA Hall, 2815 Coburg. FREE.

Free People: Music, Food, Clothing, Fellowship, 11am-3pm, WOW Hall. FREE.

LITERARY ARTS Dorianne Laux and Maxine Scates read from *The Music Lover's Poetry Anthology*, 4pm, Tsunami Books. FREE.

MUSIC Eugene Recorder Ensemble, 2:30pm, First Congregational Church, 1050 E. 23rd Ave. FREE.

"Christmas Memories & Melodies," organ concert by Richard Guy, 4pm, First Church of Christ, Scientist, 14th & Pearl. FREE.

Community concert, feat. Handel, Leopold Mozart & Rachmaninoff, 4pm, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Coburg Rd. & Beltline. Don.

Las Posadas, choral sung in Spanish & English, followed by

fiesta & breaking of piñata, 5pm, Episcopal Church of the Resurrection. 686-8462. FREE.

Pocketful of Change benefit concert for FOOD for Lane County and MEMA, feat. SpunHoney, Eagle Park Slim, I-Chele & The Circle of Light, Jupiter Hollow, Tyler Spencer, plus raffles, refreshments, more, 6pm, Vet's Club Ballroom, 1626 Willamette. 21+. \$5.

Eugene Sacred Harp Singers' Christmas show & sing along, 7pm, Hilyard Community Center. 345-3626. Don.

Haunted Haus, The Experience, Just People, Tad's Dream, 8pm, Cozmic Pizza. \$4.

Eugene Symphony's Yuletide Celebration continues. See Saturday.

THEATER *The Wizard of Oz* continues. See Thursday, Dec. 13.

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MONDAYS!



calendar

Retreat to a Victorian Christmas
at the Heceta Head Lightstation on
the coast Saturday and Sunday.
See On the Road listings



It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play continues. See Thursday, Dec. 13.

ACE's *A Christmas Carol* continues. See Friday.

A (Cracked) Christmas Carol continues. See Friday.

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever continues. See Friday.

Twelfth Night continues. See Friday.

MUSIC Aurora, 9pm, Cosmic Pizza. \$3.

ON THE AIR "The Jefferson Exchange" discusses the search for oil, 9am & 9pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

THEATER "A Celtic Holiday" continues. See Thursday, Dec. 13.

6pm, 1850 W. 24th. Register, 514-3042. FREE.

KIDS/FAMILIES Jammie storytime, 7pm, Springfield Library. FREE.

ON THE AIR "Alternative Radio" presents Richard Grossman: "Rolling Back Corporate Power," 6:30pm, KLCC 89.7 FM.

THEATER "A Celtic Holiday" continues. See Thursday, Dec. 13.

17
MONDAY

Sunrise: 7:42am; Sunset 4:35pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33

GATHERINGS Homebuying Informational Clinic, potential homeowners will learn what resources & assistance are available to them, 6pm, NEDCO, 783 Grant St. Register, info@nedcocc.org or 345-7106. FREE.

18
TUESDAY

Sunrise 7:43am; Sunset 4:36pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33

BENEFIT Benefit wine tasting for ShelterCare, 5pm-9pm, WineStyles. \$10 (half donated to nonprofit).

FILM *Spiritual Journey into the Modern World*, plus discussion w/Michael Coleman, 7pm, Spiritual Growth Center, 390 Vernal St. 995-3799. FREE.

GATHERING "Hypnosis for Childbirth," introductory clinic,

19
WEDNESDAY

Sunrise 7:44am; Sunset 4:36pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33

FILM Heckler's Movie Night: *The Omega Man*, 7pm, The Wandering Goat. FREE.

GATHERINGS Family Drumming Circle, 6pm, River House, 301 N. Adams. FREE.

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calendar

Fairmount Neighbors Association's UO Arena Committee meeting, 6:30pm, Laurelwood Golf Course. 686-8641. FREE.

KIDS/FAMILIES Special storytime with Mrs. Claus, in support of Relief Nursery, 7pm, Barnes & Noble. FREE.

LITERARY ARTS Explorations book group: *Ghosts in the Snow* by Tamara Jones, 7pm, Barnes & Noble. FREE.

MUSIC Jesse Meade, Chesapeake Blue, 9pm, Sam Bond's. 21+. \$5.

ON THE AIR "The Jefferson Exchange" discusses the art of storytelling, 9am & 9pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

THEATER "A Celtic Holiday" continues. See Thursday, Dec. 13.

20 THURSDAY

Sunrise 7:44am; Sunset 4:36pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33

BENEFIT Jazz Station Holiday Party & Benefit Jazz Jam, feat. Gus Russell, Olem Alves, Chris Orsinger and many more jazz musicians, 7pm, The Jazz Station. \$10-\$50 sug. don.

COMEDY Christmas Comedy Showcase, feat. Richard Bain, Kevin Kimmel and Andy Andrist, 8pm, Diablo's Downtown Lounge. 21+. \$5.

DANCE Eugene Ballet Company presents *The Nutcracker*, 7pm today (recorded music); 8pm tomorrow & Dec. 22; 2:30pm Dec. 22 & 23, Hult Center. \$18-\$42; \$12-\$27 today only.

FOOD/DRINK Wine tasting: Warm, bold wines, 5pm-9pm, WineStyles. \$5.

GATHERINGS Democratic Party of Lane County meeting, 6:30pm, Council Chambers, 680 Greenwood St., Junction City. FREE.

MUSIC The Memory Tones, 12:15pm, Hult Center lobby. FREE.

Third Thursday Minimal Techno Night, 8pm-11pm, Wandering Goat. FREE.

David Jacobs-Strain, 9pm, Sam Bond's. 21+. \$7.

ON THE AIR "The Jefferson Exchange" discusses the alchemy of chocolate, 9am & 9pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

"Merry Beatles, A Cool Yule w/the Fab Four," jazz musicians cover Beatles songs, 10pm-1am, KLCC 89.7 FM.

THEATER "A Celtic Holiday" continues. See Thursday, Dec. 13.

It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play continues. See Thursday, Dec. 13.

CORVALLIS events

Note - Continuation dates for out-of-town events are listed under the first day of the event.

THURSDAY, DEC. 13 Christmas Storybook Land, daily through Dec. 15, Linn County Fair & Expo Center, Albany. FREE.

Better Hearing support group, 3:30pm, Corvallis Senior Center. FREE.

Goodbye, Charlie, 8pm today, tomorrow & Dec. 15, Albany Civic Theater. www.albanycivic.org \$7-\$10.

SATURDAY, DEC. 15 Willamette Valley Concert Band Christmas Concert, 2pm, United



Mike Moskovitz portrays Scrooge in Pleasant Hill Community Theater's production of *A (Cracked) Christmas Carol*, playing Friday through Sunday

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calendar

Khaela Maricich (aka The Blow)
performs her stand-up electro-pop
act at PDX's Doug Fir Lounge
Saturday. See On the Road listings

Presbyterian Church, Albany.
www.wvcb.info

Heart of the Valley Children's
Choir's Holiday Concert, 3pm,
LaSells Stewart Center, OSU. 738-
7888. \$8, \$5 stu., sr.

Corvallis Repertory Singers present
"Candlelight & Carols," 7:30pm
today at Russell Tripp Performance
Center, LBCC, Albany; 7pm tomor-
row at First Congregational United
Church of Christ, 4515 SW West
Hills Rd. www.repsing.org or 737-
4061. \$15.

Jubilate! women's choir winter
concert, 7:30pm, First United
Methodist Church, 1165 NW
Monroe. FREE.

Carrie Clark and The Lonesome
Lovers, 9pm, Bomb's Away Café.
21+. \$5.

SUNDAY, DEC. 16 Laura
Zaerr CD release concert, 2pm,
First Presbyterian Church, 8th &
Monroe. \$10 sug. don.

MONDAY, DEC. 17 Low
Vision/Macular Degeneration sup-
port group, 2pm, Corvallis Senior
Center. FREE.

TUESDAY, DEC. 18
Covallis Community Band's
Holiday Concert, 7:30pm, First
Presbyterian Church. 737-4061.

ON THE road
FRIDAY, DEC. 14 Blue
October, The Blakes, 9pm, Crystal
Ballroom, PDX. \$26.

Diggabone, 9pm, The Landmark,
Yachats. FREE.

SATURDAY, DEC. 15 The
Blow, Swan Island, 9pm, Doug Fir
Lounge, PDX. 21+. \$12.

Heceta Head Lightstation
Victorian Christmas, 4pm-7pm

today & tomorrow, 92072 Hwy 101,
Yachats. \$3 per vehicle.

Hookah Stew, 9pm, The
Landmark, Yachats. FREE.

THURSDAY, DEC. 20 Nick
Jaina, The Builders & The
Butchers, The Golden Bears, 9pm,
Doug Fir Lounge, PDX. 21+. \$8.

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tribution or 268-3044. Priority
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Upstart Crow Studios will hold
auditions for *Wizard of Oz* on Dec.
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3pm for ages 12-18. 688-8260.

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Dec. 15 - Jan. 19



December 15, 2007

Join Stone Soup cartoonist Jan Eliot at 2:00pm
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Followed by an opening reception next door
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ART in the galleries

All exhibits free unless otherwise noted.

OPENING

Espresso PRN West Portrait photography by Claudia Kelley, through Feb. 10. PeaceHealth Medical Group annex, 1162 Willamette.

Espresso PRN East Pastel drawings by Mike Dudley, through Feb. 10. Sacred Heart Medical Center, 3rd floor, 1255 Hilyard St.

Imagine Wood furniture, jewelry boxes, game boards and pens by Urban Lumber, plus 20 other local artisans, through Dec. 31. 10am-7pm M-Sa; 10am-6pm Su. 296 E. 5th.

White Lotus Gallery Work by Jon Jay Cruson, Mary Hindman, Eric Petersen, Nancy Pobanz and Tanaka Ryohei, through Jan. 5. 10am-5:30pm Tu-Sa. 767 Willamette.

CONTINUING

Art of Glass Fused glass art by Wes Shafer and fantasy surreal art by Ron LaFond, through Dec. 26. 9am-5:30pm Tu-F; 9am-6pm M. 790 Blair.

Backstreet Gallery Work by Sharon Stiles & other Florence artists, through Dec. 31. 11am-5pm W-Su. 327 Laurel St., Florence.

Bagel Sphere-Eugene Plein Aire Painters exhibit, through Dec. 31. 7am-6pm M-F, 8am-5pm Sa, 9am-4pm Su. 810 Willamette.

Bagel Sphere-Springfield Plein Aire Painters exhibit, through Dec. 31. 7am-6pm M-F, 8am-5pm Sa, 9am-4pm Su. 5768 Main St.

Beanery-5th Street Work by Jim Derby, through Dec. 15. 6am-9pm M-Th; 6am-10pm F-Sa; 7am-9pm Su. 152 W. 5th.

Better Yet "The Dream Tree," collaboration by Peter Herley & David Miller, through Dec. 27. Noon-6:30pm M-Sa. 782 Blair Blvd.

Blooming Branch Bistro "Reflections in Watercolor," work by Barbara Aten & Demetra Kalams, through Dec. 31. 7:30am-8pm Tu-Th; 7:30am-9pm F-Sa; 7:30am-3pm Su-M. 49 W. 29th St.

Blue Moon Jewelry Designs Jewelry work by Margarita O'Brien, through Dec. 31. 10am-6pm

M-F, 10am-5pm Sa, noon-5pm Su. 115 W. 6th.

Café Soriah Fiber paintings by Sandra McMorris Johnson, through Jan. 15. 11am-2pm M-F, 5pm-10pm Su-Th, 5pm-11pm F-Sa. 384 W 13th.

Diablo's Downtown Lounge Work by Skulleddie, through Dec. 31. 11am-2:30am M-F, 3pm-2:30am Sa-Su. 959 Pearl.

DIVA "Between the Shadow and Soul: Mystical Nature Photographs and Paintings" by Tricia Clark-McDowell, through Dec. 31. "Members' Miniatures," work by DIVA member artists; "Perspectives," work by Andreas & Jennifer Salzman; "The Silence of Light," work by R. Schofield; "MKAC Showcase," work by students of Bollons & Ross, through Dec. 22. Noon-5pm Tu-Sa. 110 W. Broadway.

Downtown Library Santa figurines exhibit, through Dec. 31. 10am-8pm M-Th; 10am-6pm F-Su. 100 W. 10th Ave.

Donald Dexter, DMD Cut paper display by Valisa Higman; watercolors by Carol Cabler, through Dec. 28. 8am-5pm M-F. 2233 Willamette, Bldg. B.

Emerald Art Center "Travels Through the Pacific Coast States," paintings by Renee Manford; plus work by member artists Carol Plaia, Sylvia Casillas and B.J. Burnett, through Dec. 29. A reception is 5:30pm Friday. "Fall Show '07" student exhibit, through Jan. 10. 11am-4pm Tu-Sa. 500 Main Street, Spfd.

Fenario Gallery "Birthscapes," prints & paintings by Martina Hoffmann, through Dec. 31. Noon-6pm Tu-Sa. 881 Willamette St.

Health Information Library, PeaceHealth Medical Group Annex Watercolors & pastels by Gladys Bacon, through Dec. 21. 9am-4:30pm M-Th; 9am-1pm F. 1202 Willamette.

The Horsehead Acrylic paintings by Sara Larson, through Dec. 31. 11:30am-2:30am daily. 99 W. Broadway St.

Island Park Art Gallery Prints by Susan Lowdermilk & Renee Manford, through Jan. 24. Willamalane Adult Activity Center, 215 W. C St., Spfd.

Jacobs Gallery "Four Visions: The Human Story," work by Germaine Bennett, Judith Nakhnikian, Janet Geib Pretti and Hoa-Lan Tran, through Jan. 5. Noon-4pm Tu-F; 11am-3pm Sa. Hult Center. 684-5635.



Pride and other prints by Susan Lowdermilk, at the Island Park Art Gallery through Jan. 24

Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art "NewArt Northwest" exhibit, through Dec. 30. 11am-8pm W; 11am-5pm Th-Su. 1430 Johnson Ln., UO. \$5, \$3 stu. & sr., FREE UO stu., staff.

Karin Clarke Gallery Paintings by Adam Grosowsky & Christopher Bechler through Dec. 22. 10am-5:30pm Tu-Sa. 760 Willamette.

La Follette Gallery "Encaustics," paintings by Karen Ehlers & Jan Cavecche, through Dec. 31. 10am-6pm M-F, 10am-5pm Sa. 931 Oak.

Lane County Historical Society & Museum "The Hub of Lane County: The Eugene Park Blocks," ongoing. 10am-4pm Tu-Sa. 740 W. 13th. \$3, \$2 sr., FREE under age 14.

Letterhead Sculptures by Betsy Wolfston,

through Dec. 31. 10am-6pm M-F; 10am-5pm Sa; 11am-4pm Su. 25 E. 8th Ave.

Maude Kerns Art Center "Art for All Seasons," membership show; Club Mud Ceramics holiday sale, through Dec. 21. 10am-5pm M-F; noon-4pm Sa. 1910 E. 15th. \$3 sug. don.

Museum of Modern Malabon Art Rotating student artwork exhibit, ongoing. 8:15am-2:15pm M-F. Malabon Elementary School, 1380 Taney.

Museum of Natural & Cultural History "Rock Art: Ancient Images, New Views," works on paper by Allen Cox, through March 2. "The Flood Zone: Landscapes Sculpted by the Glacial Lake Missoula Floods," photography by Bill Woolston, through March 23. 11am-5pm W-Su. 1680 E. 15th. \$3, \$2 youths, sr.

Museum of Unfine Art Work by Marlis Badalich, Robert D. Adams, John Holdway & Mackenzie Petersen, through Dec. 14. 10:37am-7:06pm M-F, 1:13pm-7:01pm Sa. 537 Willamette St.

New Zone Gallery "Strands of Silent Screams," drawings by Nicola Noetic, through Dec. 29. W-Su noon-6pm. 164 W Broadway.

Opus6IX "Confronting the Canvas," paintings by Anne Teigen, through Jan. 13. 10am-6pm Tu-Th & Sa, 10am-8pm F, 11am-4pm Su. 22 W. 7th.

Planet Improvement Center "Bowled Over by Trash," sculpture by Tim Boyden, through Dec. 31. 8:30am-5pm M-Sa; 10am-5pm Su. 4446 Franklin Blvd., Glenwood.

Tactics Board Shop Designed snowboards by Network Charter School Students, ongoing. 11am-7pm M-Sa, noon-5pm Su. 375 W. 4th.

Tamarack Wellness Center Work by seven photographers, through Jan. 25. 9am-5:30pm M-F; 9:30am-noon Sa. 3575 Donald St.

TEAL Art Collective Work by members artists, through Dec. 28. 10am-6pm M-Sa; noon-5pm Su. 240 SW Washington, Corvallis.

Wandering Goat "Cumulative Effect," abstract art by Amy Smith Garofano, through Dec. 28. 7am-11pm M-F, 9am-11pm Sa, 9am-9pm Su. 268 Madison.

WineStyles Work from the Bodies of Art women's art collective, through Dec. 31. 11am-6pm M; 11am-8pm Tu-W; 11am-9pm Th-Sa. 2846 Willamette.

WOW Hall Work by Steven Weeks, through Dec. 31. Noon-6pm M-F. WOW Hall, 291 W. 8th.

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arts shorts

Baby Dancers

With more than 200 local children and young adults, the **Oregon Ballet Academy's *Sleeping Beauty*** follows last year's successful *Nutcracker* for a kid-friendly-length production of a ballet classic. Organizers expect the four performances to sell out the large LCC Performance Hall (220 kids means a lot of parents, grandparents and siblings, after all), but it's just possible that you can



Oregon Ballet Academy's *Sleeping Beauty*

get tix to John Grensback's production. The OBA teaches tons of local classes, and Grensback, a former New York City Ballet dancer, always has lots to teach the adorable youth of Eugene/Springfield. That's why all of the roles, including the principals, are danced by children. Take your own kids to see the classic tale of Prince Florimund and his

Elves at the Market

Come watch and learn from aspiring young writers during this weekend's Holiday Market – and maybe get a beautiful stocking stuffer from the wandering minstrels.

The **Young Writers Association (YWA)** will be showcasing some talented amateur authors this Sunday at the Market. Starting at 10:30 am, young writers (ages 7-18) will share their poetry and short stories with the public. After performances end, young writers will be walking around the market all day delighting shoppers with handwritten scrolls of their work.

The YWA began in 1994 to encourage Eugene children to express themselves through creative writing that they could share with the community. The nonprofit organization conducts literary workshops about reading and writing and offers the writers the chance to be published. KLCC's "Mixed Voices" is a radio show on which a young writer can read a short story or poem. Literature camps are also held in the summer to help students. – Katie Cornell

High Cs in High-D

I got to meet Peter Gelb, newish Metropolitan Opera general manager, in October. The journalists at the event had lots of questions about "the movies" – that is to say, the live simulcasts of operas from the Met, the ones that sold out movie theaters on Saturdays last year in towns across England, Canada and the U.S. Gelb admitted some surprise at the overwhelming nature of their success, but he said he appreciated the stagehands' willingness to work with the idea (New York stagehands can be a bit challenging if management doesn't want to compensate for new platforms), and he was looking forward to expanding the audience even further this year.

Now the year's about to begin with the kickoff **HD simulcast** of Gounod's sensual *Roméo et Juliette*, starring Anna Netrebko and Roberto Alagna, at 10 am Saturday, Dec. 15, at Cinemark 17 in Springfield (it repeats, not live, at 2 pm Sunday, Dec. 16). And *Hansel and Gretel* kicks off the new year (read the Met's blog about the countdown to the opening of this piece at blog.metoperafamily.org) in Springfield at 10 am on Tuesday, Jan. 1, 2008 (with the taped version to follow on Jan. 6). Hey, if you're awake and willing to fork over the \$22 at that point, more power to ya! I'm particularly looking forward to *Macbeth* (Jan. 12 & 13), *Peter Grimes* (March 15 & 16) and, of course, *La Bohème* (April 5 & 6). Get tix early at www.cinemark.com or be prepared to lose out on a seat! Seriously. These things are popular, people! And having seen the Met in action this year, I can tell you the scenery, lighting and costumes (and, sometimes, the acting) improve on that of many big-budget flicks. See you there!

– Suzi Steffen



Roméo et Juliette

Beasts and Bee's Knees

Encaustic show shines pretty

To make beeswax, the honeybee must literally work its ass off. Produced by thin scales secreted by glands on the surface of the bee's abdomen, beeswax — once collected by the beekeeper — can be made into candles, cosmetics or pharmaceuticals (e.g. that goop that keeps your bones from bleeding). It can also be mixed with pigments and resin to make encaustic paintings, an art process practiced for more than two millenia. The current show at La Follette Gallery is called "Encaustics," but "From a Bee's Butt to An Image of a Bee's Butt" might be more apt of a title, such is the synthesis implied in Portland-based Karen Ehlers' and Jan Cavecche's graphically striking portraits of natural clones. I use "clones" because the mimetic symbolism in their work removes nature from the equation. And yet, this is a show all about nature.

According to Cavecche's artist statement, working in encaustic is a challenge that allows her to "transcend the everyday obstacles" she encounters while making her art. She claims the "happy accidents" of working in a "haphazard and erratic" medium usually yield her best work, and she's not far off the mark. Her series of stone imagery, *armoured with pebbles*, *three agates* and *floating rocks* are the only works in the show that attempt either texture or shading, a painstaking feat to get right in the rather flat encaustic medium. But Cavecche basically pulls it off by half-assing

it, scraping and dripping the hot wax in sloppy gestures to give the rocks actual quality (rather than turn them into mere symbols).

Similarly, Cavecche's *Honeycomb Puzzle* is a loving tribute to the medium. She achieves texture this time by monoprinting honeycomb patterns directly over the brilliantly warm oranges, reds and yellows of encaustic. What we have are snapshots of the beeswax in its prenatal state, half complete but coming together beautifully. Conversely,



Deer Branches by Karen Ehlers (left) and floating rocks by Jan Cavecche

easily stand for childhood), and the gesture feels like afterthought.

Karen Ehlers' work also extensively relies on symbols. Chairs, deer, trees, firehoses, teapots, vases, cut plants and arrows combine in grids of rigid structure that recall stencil designs from 1950s wallpaper and wrapping paper. *Deer Branches* makes good use of spatial arrangement not only on the surface, but with actual depth. Ehlers lays on thick and thin layers of encaustic (including unpigmented beeswax) to show a depth of field that achieves a high level of energy without being too clashing or cluttered.

In a series entitled *Bestiary*, Ehlers relates

Beeswax can be mixed with pigments and resin to make encaustic paintings, an art process practiced for more than two millenia.

a story (on a cue card) of a rumor she heard in grad school about the trees outside of the National Gallery in Washington, D.C. Apparently the rats, pigeons and squirrels who shared the cavity of the trees were mating, and monstrous crossbreeds were discovered by the construction workers after they cut the trees down. Ehlers illustrates this rumor (and her memory of it) by imaging the creatures: a squirrel with a rat's tail, a rat with pigeon's wings, etc. The creatures are whimsical and cute in that way you see on display at Fred Meyer's mass-produced reprints section. Indeed, there's something a bit *too familiar* about these images, as if I've seen them somewhere before. Like many of Ehlers' pieces, *Bestiary* is well-intentioned, graphically appealing and comes with a rich backstory but is thoroughly uninspiring as anything other than wall art. On her website, Ehlers has a handful of striking mirror-image encaustics, but unfortunately they didn't make it into this show.

"Encaustics" runs through Dec. 31. For more information on these artists, who have priced their work quite affordably, visit www.cavecche.com and www.karenehlers.com **EW**



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Compass Points

Hurrying through a magical world

THE GOLDEN COMPASS: Written and directed by Chris Weitz. Based on the novel by Philip Pullman. Cinematography, Henry Braham. Production design, Dennis Gassner. Music, Alexandre Desplat. Starring Dakota Blue Richards, Nicole Kidman, Sam Elliott, Daniel Craig, Eva Green and the voices of Ian McKellen, Ian McShane and Freddie Highmore. New Line Cinema, 2007. PG-13. 113 minutes. ★★☆☆☆

It gives me not even the tiniest spark of pleasure to have to report that other critics were, for the most part, right about *The Golden Compass*, director Chris Weitz' adaptation of Philip Pullman's magical book, the first of a trilogy that explores the nature of destiny and the power of connection. The film, which I've been anxiously excited about for years, is a bit of a mess — a beautiful mess, at least, but an untidy tangle of the ideas of Pullman as interpreted by Weitz, set to an overwhelming score and then lined up and knocked over scene by scene like fantastical dominos.

It's always difficult to see an adaptation of a beloved book without counting the ways in which the film differs, but with *The Golden Compass*, the problem isn't really the changes, illogical as some of them seem. It's that the film hops, skips and jumps through the story, failing to connect one set piece of a scene to the next, its characters repeatedly making unlikely leaps of intuition in order to move the plot along. And it moves along at quite a clip, in a hurry to get from Jordan College, where 12-year-old orphan Lyra Belacqua (a perfect, spunky Dakota Blue Richards) lives, to the snowy fields of the north, where ice bears battle and the Gobblers, a mysterious group of child-stealers backed by the world's ruling body, the Magisterium, do their horrible work.

In Lyra's young hands rests the fate of worlds. That fate involves Dust, a mysterious particle feared and sought by the adults around her, including her gruff uncle, Lord Asriel (Daniel Craig), and the devious Mrs. Coulter (Nicole Kidman, slithering about in icy gold and white). Dust, Lyra guesses, has something to do with why people's daemons — exterior manifestations of the soul that take the shape of animal companions

— change forms when people are children, but settle on one form when they grow up. Dust also has something to do with the alethiometer, the compass-like device of the title, which is given to Lyra to understand and protect as she ventures north, in search of her missing friend Roger (Ben Walker) and of Asriel, who's searching out Dust in the Arctic.

One of the filmmakers' best decisions was to let us see, through shifting, glowing Dust, what Lyra sees when she reads the alethiometer. But a poor decision was to let it appear just a pretty, handy gizmo, easily understood, and to fail to flesh out characters who appear just pretty, interesting variations on fantasy tropes. We've got witches, ethereal and earthy at once; cowboys, in the form of aeronaut Lee Scoresby (casting Sam Elliott in this role was a bit of brilliance); scholars; gyptians, with eyeliner and tattoos; adventurers; and, of course, talking animals, though those — both daemons and armored bears — are lovingly created and often seamlessly integrated into this fantastical yet familiar world.

There are reasons to see this film even though it lacks the wonder and intelligence of its source material. The perfect, spine-tingling image of Lyra riding the armored bear Iorek Byrnison (Ian McKellen) is worth the price of admission, and the two battles are unforgettable: one because it's between two armored bears, the other because while it's as bloodless as a battle in Narnia, it's not without effect: When people are killed, their daemons go out in a golden swirl of Dust. It's a striking, original way to present the horrors of violence. For these reasons and one other, I want to tell you to go see *The Golden Compass* despite its failings. See, I still want them to make the next movie, and the third. I want Weitz, who was clearly overwhelmed by the scope of this film, to hand over *The Subtle Knife*, book two, to someone who can handle it, so that it might appear on screen with more weight and heart. *The Golden Compass*' misleadingly happy ending simply can't be the last bit of Lyra's story we see. **EW**

Reverend Billy does his thing
in *What Would Jesus Buy?*



Shop-ocalypse Now

Putting Christmas out of business

WHAT WOULD JESUS BUY?: Directed by Rob VanAlkemade. Music by Steve Horowitz and William Moses. Starring Bill Talen and Savitri Durkee. Werner Film, 2007. PG. ★★☆☆☆

Somewhere, the man behind *Borat* is laughing. After all, Sacha Baron Cohen only grappled with the fear, hatred and bigotry of rural America. Gritty stuff, but by comparison, the Reverend Billy is on a *mission*: He wants to kill Christmas by starving it to death. Actually, he's convinced we're spending far too much money during the holidays, an urge which flies in the face of what Christmas is supposed to represent. But when you realize just how much money is at stake — America spent \$455 billion during the holidays last year — even a professional grouch like the Grinch couldn't take down the hordes of maniacal shoppers. So what is Reverend Billy up to?

The conceit of *What Would Jesus Buy?* is simple. Billy, who closely resembles the fallen evangelists he's trying to pantomime, is leading his flock from New York to California via a biodeisel bus. The destination is Disneyland, a magic kingdom to some, but to Billy the symbol of all that is wrong with consumer culture. It should be a massively chaotic — and massively entertaining — endeavor. To a limited extent, it is. There's an irresistible scene in which Billy uses a portable confessional to hear the sins of a young shopaholic; it's both wonderfully transgressive and silly, since Billy misses her point. Awkward confusion settles over a wealthy suburb when, posing as Christmas carolers, Billy and company deliver harshly alternative lyrics. (*Joy to the World! In the form of goods! Consume! Consume! Consume!*) But far too many scenes whimper out rather than work magic. In Bloomington,

The Reverend Billy is on a *mission*: He wants to kill Christmas by starving it to death.

I mention *Borat* because *What Would Jesus Buy?* is in many ways *Borat* lite. Reverend Billy is actually Billy Talen, a comedian, caterer and former Times Square resident who watched his New York neighborhood become an amusement park. What elevates Billy's act above that of the sky-is-falling corner preacher's is the Church of Stop Shopping Gospel Choir, a group that boasts 35 men and women as well as a seven-piece band. Together they sing the vices of consumerism in churches and performances halls, events that have a wildly Pentecostal feel, what with Billy fainting after "exorcising" the credit cards of the audience. But the preferred tactic of this "anarchic Mormon tabernacle choir" is to enter a local Starbucks guerrilla-style, singing or humming faintly while Billy starts speaking in tongues about the evils of the corporate world. The choir members, singing stormtroopers in red robes, break into elated song as Billy gets handcuffed and arrested yet again.

Minn., the group crashes the infamous Mall of America, a monument to commerce that last year alone received 40 million visitors. The choir's intrusion should be an act of civil disobedience for the ages, but Billy just ends up apologizing. A raid on Wal-Mart headquarters also fizzles.

As an issue-driven documentary, *What Would Jesus Buy?* suffers for its lack of attention to personality and character. We get a rough idea of Billy and a slightly murkier sense of his wife, and the rest of the choir are pretty much immaterial. It's a shame, because anyone who would hitch their wagon to Billy's must be somewhat unusual. A choir member named "Quilty" says he's worried about being taken seriously — has anyone told him he was named after toilet paper? — but these moments are all too rare. I greatly admire the courage of Billy and his troupe; you might disagree with their methods, but you can hardly debate their message. But as a movie, *What Would Jesus Buy?* doesn't add up to enough. **ew**

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OPENING OR RETURNING:
Alvin and the Chipmunks: What's next? A live-action Care Bears movie starring Jason Lee? (He's in this and *Underdog*, for those not keeping track.) Those wacky little creatures with the high-pitched voices will surely cause him some trouble in this newest bit of family fare. With, um, David Cross. Now I'm confused. PG. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.
Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young: A 1974 performance at London's Wembley Stadium depicts the band in front of a huge audience. Part of the In-Concert series. Bijou LateNite.
I Am Legend: Will Smith does the all-by-his-lonesome thing in a New York City left not exactly empty after a manmade virus devastates the globe. During the day, he tries to find other survivors; at night, he tries to survive the creatures that are what's left of humanity. PG13. 100 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.
I'm Not There: Portland filmmaker Todd Haynes' (*Far From Heaven*) unconventional Bob Dylan movie is one of the year's most anticipated – and, for the most part, highly praised. Different actors, including Cate Blanchett, Heath Ledger and Christian Bale, play incarnations of Dylan over the decades. "One of the most inventive and joyous movies of the year," said *Salon*. R. 135 min. Bijou. ★★☆☆☆ (12/6)
IMMI Fest: Two classic silent films show with live soundtracks from the Knotty Ensemble and guests during the Improvised Music and Moving Image Festival: *Phantom* (1922), 9:30 pm Dec. 14; and *Phantom of the Opera* (1925), 8 pm Dec. 15, DIVA. \$5, \$3 stu.
Omega Man: Charlton Heston is the last man on earth in this 1971 adaptation of *I Am Legend*, which screens (nicely timed with the new version!) as part of the Heckler's Movie Night series. PG. 98 min. 7 pm Dec. 19, Wandering Goat. Free.
Resident Evil: Extinction: Alice (Milla Jovovich) is still trying to get rid of that pesky zombie-making virus. For this third film in the series, Alice gets new friends (we suspect they replace those zombieified last time out) including *Heroes'* Ali Larter and singer Ashanti. R. 95 min. Movies 12.
What Would Jesus Buy?: Dubbing itself "The movie Santa doesn't want you to see," *WWJB?* follows Reverend Billy and the Church of Stop Shopping Gospel Choir across the country in a biodiesel bus as they spread the word about consumerism. While it's entertaining to a point, this documentary peters out as it continues, and doesn't pay enough attention to personality and character. PG. Bijou. **See review this issue.**

Films open the Friday following EW publication date unless otherwise noted. See archived reviews at www.eugenewekly.com

CONTINUING:
American Gangster: Denzel Washington and Russell Crowe face off in the story of 1970s driver turned drug lord Frank Lucas (Washington) and the cop investigating Lucas and his unexpected rise to power. Directed by Ridley Scott. R. 157 min. Movies 12. VRC Stadium 15.
 ★★☆☆☆ (11/8)
August Rush: Keri Russell and Jonathan Rhys Meyers star as a musical young couple whose lovelorn encounter produces a child. Orphaned "by circumstance" (says the description), the boy (Freddie Highmore) grows up to become a musical prodigy. PG. 113 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.
Bee Movie: Not much looks all that sweet about this animated comedy, in which Jerry Seinfeld voices a recent bee college graduate who learns, to his shock, that humans have been stealing bees' honey for ages and ages. With the voices of Renee Zellweger and Matthew Broderick. PG. 90 min. Cinemark.
Before the Devil Knows You're Dead: Sidney Lumet's new film is being hailed as a return to form by many, but there's something unsatisfying in the bleak tale of two brothers whose attempt at robbery goes terribly, devastatingly wrong. Stars Philip Seymour Hoffman, Ethan Hawke and a raging, quiet Albert Finney. R. 117 min. Bijou. ★★☆☆☆ (11/29)
Beowulf: Robert Zemeckis, working from a screenplay by Roger Avary and Neil Gaiman, directs this version of the story of the warrior Beowulf, with Ray Winstone in the title role and Angelina Jolie as Grendel's mother. Reviews are good, but it still looks like a video game. PG13. 114 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15. 44211 (11/21)
Black Sheep: If you can see this film's image of an evil sheep trying to bite someone's ear off and not laugh, you're made of stronger stuff than I. When a genetically altered lamb is released into a New Zealand farmer's flock, the sheep turn into vicious flesh-eaters. Also, one of the characters has a sheep phobia. With effects by WETA Workshop. Ooh, neat! R. 87 min. Bijou LateNite.
Bourne Ultimatum, The: "I remember everything," says Matt Damon's Jason Bourne in this film's action-packed trailer. Director Paul Greengrass and the major players (Joan Allen, Julia Stiles) return to the series' satisfying third installment, which finds Bourne hunting down his past in stunning locations. PG13. 111 min. Movies 12. ★★☆☆☆ (8/9)
Dan in Real Life: Poor Dan (Steve Carrell) is an advice columnist with a passel of daughters whose life is further complicated when he falls for his brother's girlfriend (Juliette Binoche). Also, the brother is played by Dane Cook. PG13. 99 min. VRC Stadium 15.
Dragon Wars: The good: Dragons! In L.A.! The bad: The plot is a convoluted thing about magical powers, resurrected lovers and a dragon that will be able to ascend into heaven. Also, the biggest names in the cast are

Jason Behr (*Roswell*) and Robert Forster. But still ... dragons! In L.A.! Can it be better than *Reign of Fire*? PG13. 90 min. Movies 12.
Enchanted: Beautiful princesses! Handsome princes! And ... midtown Manhattan? Amy Adams (*Junebug*), James Marsters (*X-Men*) and Patrick Dempsey (*Grey's Anatomy*) star in this fairy tale in the real world, which follows Princess Giselle (Adams) after a wicked witch banishes her from her magical kingdom. Why does this Disney flick look so charming? PG. 107 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.
Fred Claus: So what if Santa had a brother? Who happened to be the opposite of the saintly gift-giver: a repo man? That's the basic premise of this film, but the reason people will see it, I suspect, is for Paul Giamatti in a Santa suit getting in a fight with Vince Vaughn. PG. 116 min. VRC Stadium 15.
Golden Compass, The: An only slightly above average film – mostly on account of the fantastic casting – based on Philip Pullman's utterly brilliant novel. In a world much like our own, everyone has an animal companion who's part of themselves, and one little girl (newcomer Dakota Blue Richards) is the key to saving not just her own world, but countless others as well. With Daniel Craig, Nicole Kidman, Sam Elliott and Eva Green. PG13. 113 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15. **See review this issue.**
Good Luck Chuck: Chuck (Dane Cook) has a hex on him: every girl he dates finds true love with the *next* guy she dates. Enter Cam (Jessica Alba), a klutzy sweetheart Chuck falls for hard. Clearly, he's got to wiggle out from under his strange curse. R. 101 min. Movies 12.
Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix: The Ministry of Magic is in denial about the return of Lord Voldemort, Hogwarts get a nasty new teacher and Harry ... Harry's in one kind of trouble or another throughout the mostly successful and only slightly disappointing fifth HP film. It's not quite *Prisoner of Azkaban*, but it's getting there. PG13. 138 min. Movies 12. ★★☆☆☆ (7/19)
Hitman: Timothy Olyphant, go back to *Deadwood*! No, kidding, kidding. But honestly, I'm not sure this videogame-based film about a professional assassin trying to find out who set him up (wait, does this remind anyone of Jason Bourne?) is the best place for you. R. 100 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.
Martian Child, The: John Cusack continues to drag his formerly youthful cinematic persona into adulthood with this film about a man who adopts a boy who claims to be from Mars. With Amanda Peet and the always-wonderful Joan Cusack. PG. 108 min. Movies 12.
Mist, The: I keep wondering what's next. *The Cloud? The Hailstorm?* Stephen King can make monsters out of anything, right? Frank Darabont directs this adaptation of a King short story about a creepy mist that hides even creepier creatures. R. 124 min. Cinemark.

Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium: This story about a magical toy store, its owner (Dustin Hoffman) and the young shop employee who might inherit it (Natalie Portman) is written and directed by Zach Helm, who also wrote last year's *Stranger Than Fiction*. G. 94 min. Cinemark.
No Country for Old Men: The latest from the Coen brothers is a near-masterpiece, an adaptation of Cormac McCarthy's acclaimed novel, and it's earning plenty of acclaim itself. The story involves a small-town sheriff, a deadly drug deal and a psychopathic killer (Javier Bardem). The reviewers say "intense," "searing," "an evil delight." R. 122 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15. ★★☆☆☆ (11/29)
Ratatouille: The latest animated film from Pixar is directed by Brad Bird (whose *The Iron Giant* is too often overlooked) and concerns a big-dreaming rat who wants to be a chef. When he makes a deal with a garbage boy, the culinary world of Paris gets far more than it ever imagined. G. 110 min. Movies 12. ★★☆☆☆ (7/12)
Stardust: Matthew Vaughn (*Layer Cake*) takes a firm and steady hand on the many plot threads of this adaptation of Neil Gaiman's novel about a fallen star with an attitude and the many characters seeking her. Wicked and charming, sweet and sly, with a stellar cast and a superb sense of humor. PG13. 128 min. Movies 12. ★★☆☆☆ (8/9)
Superbad: Judd Apatow and Seth Rogen both have fingers in this pie, as co-producer and co-writer, respectively. It's the story of two high school friends, Evan (Michael Cera, *Arrested Development*) and Seth (Jonah Hill), who are trying – well, in classic teen movie fashion, they're trying really hard to get laid. They're about to go off to college; what do you expect? R. 114 min. Movies 12. ★★☆☆☆ (8/23)
This Christmas: For the first time in years, the whole Whitfield clan is heading home for Christmas – meaning there's got to be some drama and tension between siblings. "An overstuffed but satisfying Yuletide comedy-drama with a fine cast," said *Newsday*; that cast includes Delroy Lindo, Loretta Devine, Idris Elba, Regina King and Mekhi Phifer. PG13. 117 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.
3:10 to Yuma: Russell Crowe and Christian Bale costar in this solid Western from director James Mangold (*Walk the Line*). Based on a short story by Elmore Leonard that was made into a film in 1957, the film follows a vicious outlaw (Crowe) and the Civil War vet (Bale) who's volunteered to get the thief to the train that'll take him to trial. R. 117 min. Movies 12. ★★☆☆☆ (9/13)
Underdog: Jason Lee voices the titular canine, who finds himself superpowered after an incident in the lab of mad scientist Simon Barsinister (Peter Dinklage). Bad guys have plots, but Underdog has a spaniel to impress! Oh, and the day to save. PG. 84 min. Movies 12.









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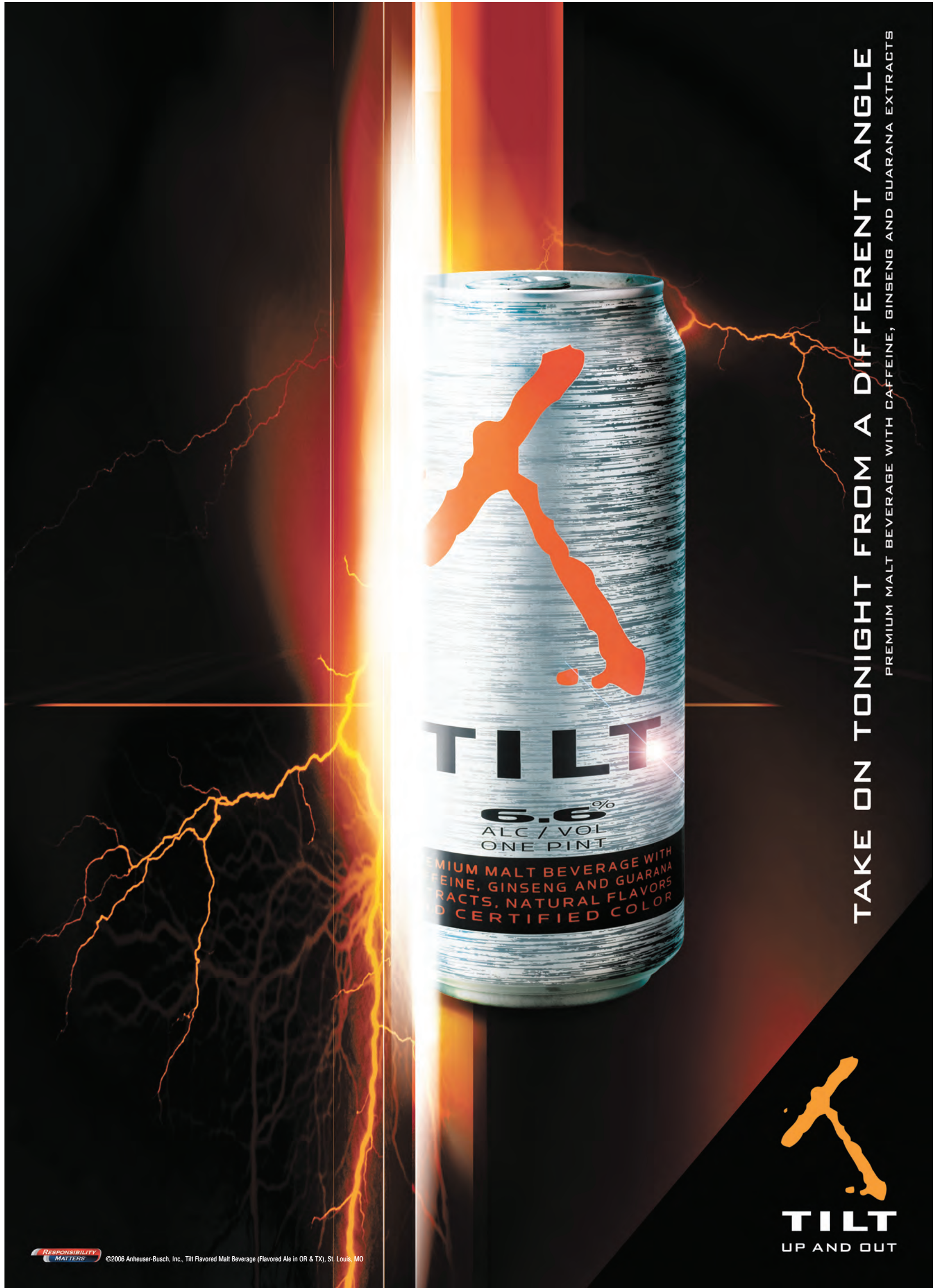
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Bee a Good Citizen

SpunHoney is hosting the **Pocketful of Change** benefit concert at the Vet's Club. The event, equipped with Ninkasi beer on tap, raffle prizes and guest performers, is all for a good cause: Proceeds go to FOOD for Lane County (FFLC). Pocketful of Change benefits FFLC's vehicle funds to help ensure transportation is readily available for delivering food around Lane County. The benefit also hopes to raise enough money to distribute to the Musicians Emergency Medical Association (MEMA) and the Vet's Club. MEMA is the brainchild of local saxophonist Paul Biondi, who will perform in a "saxophone-off" – dubbed "You Can Leave Your Sax On" – against James Green (from Reeble Jar) during the show. MEMA is a non-profit organization founded by musicians for musicians. The main goal is to provide financial resources to musicians and their families during medical emergencies. As of now, MEMA is a local organization, but it hopes eventually to go national.

Performers for the evening include SpunHoney, I-chéle and the Circle of Light, Jupiter Hollow, Eagle Park Slim and Tyler Spencer on didgeridoo. The Pocketful of Change Benefit Concert starts at 6 pm Sunday, Dec. 16, at the Vet's Club. \$5 don.

– Katie Cornell



From Hated to Celebrated As a member of the late-'90s Los Angeles pop punk trio Osker, **Devon Williams** was well known for his snotty angst and onstage outspokenness. The singer, guitarist and frontboy (he was only 16 when Osker formed) often crucified the punk scene's nonconformist conformity, namely its fashion, and his frequent crowd-baiting earned the band the label of meanest and most hated act on Epitaph Records. If that's the case, then who is this softy singing about "visions of love" over sweeping orchestration and honey-eyed harmonies?

Obviously Devon Williams has grown up and calmed down, trading in the soapbox for a string section. He's been touring with southern California songbird Lavender Diamond and collaborating with her pianist/composer Steve Gregoropoulos, and it shows. With an unassuming voice and bouncy, sun-kissed melodies, Williams is now more in line with early Paul McCartney or Badly Drawn Boy than Rancid and Green Day. On "Fragile Weapon," his voice skips over a delicate, Smiths-esque guitar and even-tempered rhythm, while on "A Truce," Williams plays tag with bushy-tailed strings and hits falsettos that would put the doe-eyed Beatle to shame. He's definitely swapped the teenage screeds for poppy love songs, but as far as the on-stage antics, Devon, I still wouldn't flaunt that faux-hawk if I were you. Devon Williams plays at 9 pm Thursday, Dec. 13, at Sam Bond's Garage (21+ show, \$3-\$5) and 8 pm Thursday, Dec. 20, at Cozmic Pizza (all ages, \$5). – *Jeremy Ohmes*

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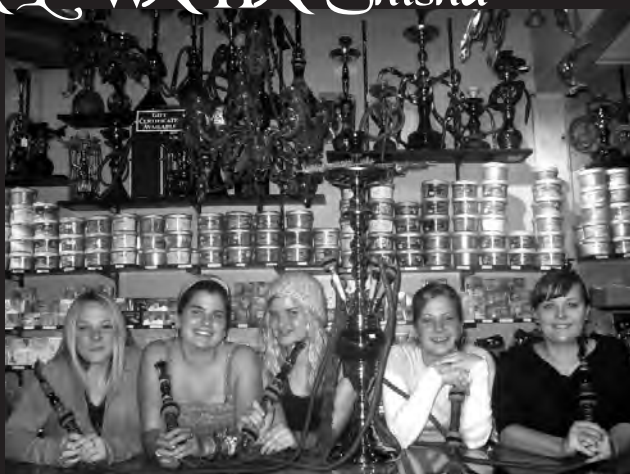
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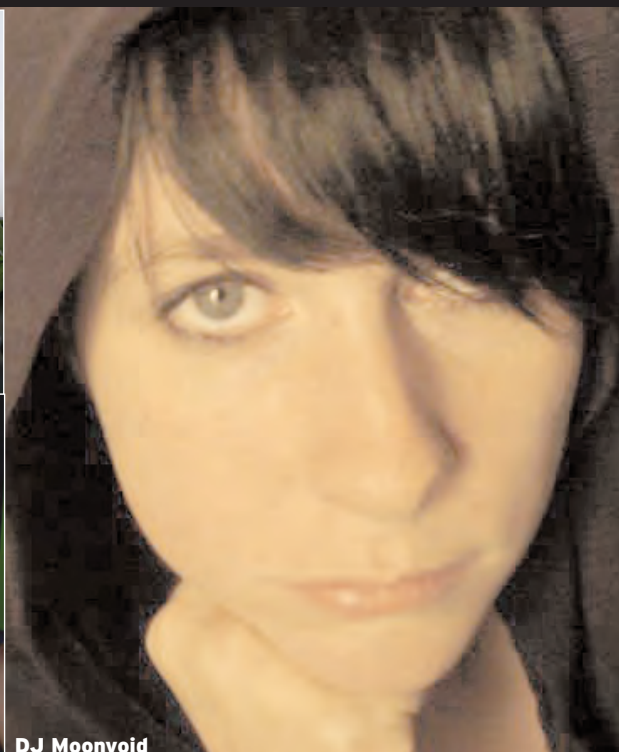
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DJ Layla



DJ KaatSkratch



DJ Moonvoid

Heeey, Ladies!

"If you're new, good luck." So says **DJ KaatSkratch**, one half of the Total Knockout Sound team and one of four women DJs in the **Sarasvati DJ showcase**. She's speaking of how hard it is for female DJs to break into the scene, but her words could just as well apply to male DJs. "The places that have DJs are real entrenched with their own DJ. The clubs have their DJs, and that's who they call."

'Hopefully, we'll do the show and some other lady DJs will be there and sign up for next time.'

—DJ Kaatskratch

DJ KaatSkratch, who will MC the Sarasvati showcase, has been fortunate to find slots at WOW Hall – but even then it's only when someone else doesn't show up. "I've done a lot of shows on 10 minutes notice!" she laughs. DJ KaatSkratch doesn't limit herself to one genre. She reads the crowd to play what they want to hear, but

it's always the "stuff that people like to move to."

She describes Sarasvati's headliner **Moonvoid** as "amazing." On the rave music circuit for years, Moonvoid is "a master of beat mixing and knob twisting sound manipulation. She is as much fun to watch as she is to listen and dance to."

DJ Layla, who frequently spins for bellydancers, often adds the flavor of Middle Eastern tribal music to her sets. And **DJ LeluLaserlight** has "a whole performance art show going on," not just music, says DJ KaatSkratch. Lelu calls her self-made genre "Outer Space Love Rock," and overlays her live performances with guitar and "fembot vocals with self-recorded backing tracks from her digital 8-track machine."

DJs rely on networking to find gigs. DJ KaatSkratch is hoping that Sarasvati will help create a network of female DJs and provide more opportunities. "Hopefully, we'll do the show and some other lady DJs will be there and sign up for next time."

Sarasvati DJ Showcase takes place at 9 pm Thursday, Dec. 13, at Diablo's Downtown Lounge. 21+ show. \$3 – *Vanessa Salvia*

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THURSDAY DEC. 13

AXE & FIDDLE Hot Club Eugene-8; Django gypsy jazz
BLACK FOREST Telepathic Dumpster-10; Psychedelic rock
THE CITY DJ Simy-10; 80s, techno, reggae
THE COOLER Karaoke-9:30
COUNTRYSIDE Mr. Wizard-9
COZMIC PIZZA The Blair St. Mugwumps, Riot Folk, The Spins-7; Benefit concert
DIABLO'S DJ Hot Teeth-10; 90s
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Lady DJ Night, feat. DJs KaatSkratch, Layla, Moonvoid, LeluLaserlight-9
DUCK INN Ben Coleman's Karaoke-9
EARL'S JUKE JOINT Karaoke Contest-7
ELDORADO Karaoke-9
GOODFELLAS Johnny Wilde Jam-9:30
HAPPY HOURS Karaoke w/Jim-8:30
JOGGER'S DJ Tino-10; Hip hop, R&B, dancehall
JOHN HENRY'S 80s Night w/Chris, Jen and John-10
INDIGO DISTRICT David Bazan, J. Tillman-8; Alternative, folk
LONE STAR Texas Hold'em-7
LUCKEY'S Disco Organica, The Sauce Policy-10; Funk
MACENZI'S TOO Karaoke-7
MAC'S AT THE VET'S Open Mic-9
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY Jazz Jam w/The Richardson Trio-8
O'DONNELL'S DJs-B-U: Tim-9

THE OLD PAD Karaoke-9
OVERTIME GRILL West Side Blues Jam-8
RED LION HOTEL Skip Jones & Byron Case-7
ROCK 'N' RODEO Ladies' Night w/Jon Michaels-8:30; Country, rock
SAM BOND'S Testface, Devon Williams-9; Rock
SPIRITS Normal Bean's Jam Night-9
TAP 'N' KEG Rising Phoenix-9; Hip hop
TAYLOR'S DJ Red Fox-10; hip hop
TERRITORIAL WINERY Anne, Ryan Lee-7; Folk rock, techno
VILLAGE GREEN Karaoke-7
WETLANDS Grateful Dead on DVD-10
WOW HALL Dance for Impeachment, feat. Michael Human, Sonny & The Moonlighters, The Audio Schizo, Dawn Baby, Rev. Marc Time, Mr. Random-8; Variety

FRIDAY DEC. 14

AXE & FIDDLE Drunken Prayer, Right-on John, DJ Hwy. 7-8:30; Country soul, blues
BEANERY Craig Sorseth-7
BLACK FOREST The Wobblies, Pistol Whipped Prophets, PB Army-10; Punk
THE CITY DJ Simy-10; Hip hop revolution, top 40
CLUB 420 Karaoke-9
COUNTRYSIDE Latago-9
COZMIC PIZZA Alfonso Maya, Dan Howard-8:30; Trova
DIABLO'S DJ Supa J-10; All-request

DOWNTOWN LOUNGE The Athiarchists, Tallboy Shotgun, Northwest Royale-10
EARL'S JUKE JOINT Blues Jam-9
ELDORADO Karaoke-9
EL JARRO AZUL Jessie Marquez & Mike Denny-7
FOUR CORNERS HOP HOUSE Johnny Wilde-9:30
GAME DAY SPORTS BAR Jamalia-9
GOODFELLAS Karaoke-9:30
HAPPY HOURS The Alliance Band-9
INDIGO DISTRICT DJ Hoop Dreams & DJ Adam-10; Hip hop, electro
JOGGER'S Club Motion w/DJ Ty-9:30; Hip hop, R&B & more
JOHN HENRY'S Sirens Echo, Animal Farm, Rocket One, Universal DJ Sect-10; Hip hop, CD release party
LAVELLES John Polese-5:30
LUCKEY'S Cambio, Groups of Three-10; Indie
MACENZI'S TOO Phamous Phaces-9
MAC'S AT THE VET'S Deb Cleveland Band-9:30; R&B, soul, blues
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY Eva Bagno-5:30. Steve Larson Trio-9
THE O BAR Karaoke-9
OK TAVERN Lorie's Karaoke-9
OREGON WINE WAREHOUSE Beth Miriam Rose-7; Folk guitar & vocals
OVERTIME GRILL Skip Jones & The Spirit of New Orleans-8:30; R&B
PAPA'S SOUL FOOD KITCHEN Elizabeth Cable-7; Acoustic
PEABODY'S PUB Karaoke-9
ROCK 'N' RODEO DJs Jon Michaels & Rob Reynolds-7:30; Country, rock, top 40
ROGUE BREWERY Mr. Bill's Trivia Show-8
SAM BOND'S Laura Kemp & T.R. Kelly-9; Singer-songwriters
SAM'S PLACE Karaoke-8
SAMURAI DUCK Perpetual Conversion, Paranaut, Rye Wolves-9; Doom metal
SPIRITS Go 2 11-9
TINY TAVERN Uncle Stumbles Holiday Pageant-9:30
TAYLOR'S DJ Prestine-10
TIME OUT Caught in the Act Karaoke-9
VILLAGE GREEN Blue Light Special-9; Rock, country

SATURDAY DEC. 15

AXE & FIDDLE Baitball, Guitar Recovery Project-8:30; Alternative

BEANERY Sgt. Leonard's Loopy Arts Dub Band-7
BEL AMI LOUNGE Lyn Burg Trio-10
BLACK FOREST Dark Iron Legacy, Nuclear Omega-10; Metal
THE CITY DJ Redd Fox-10; Top 40, hip hop, 80s/90s
CLUB 420 Karaoke-9
CLUB SNAFU Freaks Dance Party w/Audio Schizophrenic-9; Electro-mash
COUNTRYSIDE Latago-9
COZMIC PIZZA Jose Cruz-9; Salsa dance
DIABLO'S Vinyl DJs-10
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE The Comedy Workout-8. Attack Ships on Fire, Jack Inferno, Proven-10
DUCK INN Ben Coleman's Karaoke-9
EARL'S JUKE JOINT Eagle Park Slim, Bill Shreve & Juke Joint All-Stars-9
ELDORADO Karaoke-9
GOODFELLAS Karaoke-9:30
HAPPY HOURS The Greg Glass Project-9; Rock 'n' roll
INDIGO DISTRICT DJ Hoop Dreams-10; Hip hop, electro
JOGGER'S Club Motion w/ VJ Ty-9:30; Hip hop, R&B & more
JOHN HENRY'S The Sawyer Family Christmas Special, feat. Drunken Prayer, Right on John-10
THE KEG Disco dance-9
LAVELLE'S Debra Mathis-5:30
LONE STAR Karaoke-9
LUCKEY'S Denalian, Starboard Morning, Kousfly-10; Indie rock
MACENZI'S TOO Phamous Phaces-9
MAC'S AT THE VET'S Henry Cooper & All-Star Blues Band-9:30; Rock, blues
MAIN ST. SPFD Texas Hold'em-8
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY Paul Painter Trio-9
PAPA'S SOUL FOOD KITCHEN Brothers of Beat & Papa Soul-9; Old-school soul
PEABODY'S PUB Karaoke-9
QUACKERS Rock It-9; Dance rock
ROCK 'N' RODEO DJ Rob Reynolds-7:30; Country,

rock, top 40
SAM BOND'S The Fast Computers/Tom Heini Xmas Variety Show-9:30
SAMURAI DUCK Ladon, AKA White Devil, Severein-9; Metal
SPIRITS Go 2 11-9
TAP 'N' KEG Rising Phoenix-9:30; Retro mix
TAYLOR'S DJ Simy-10; Hip hop
TOMMY'S B&G Karaoke-9
VILLAGE GREEN Blue Light Special-9; Rock, country
WINESTYLES Mark Slaymaker-7; Delta blues
WOW HALL Forgotten Works, Cassandra Robertson, Queen Accordionna, DJ KaatSkratch-9; Membership party

SUNDAY DEC. 16

BLACK FOREST Comedy Showcase-8
COUNTRY SIDE Karaoke w/Kim-9
COZMIC PIZZA Haunted Haus, The Experience, Just People, Tad's Dream-8
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Karaoke-10
JOHN HENRY'S Broadway Revue-10; Burlesque



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MONDAY DEC. 17

AXE & FIDDLE DJ Richard Swift-8; A to Z
BLACK FOREST Karaoke-9
COUNTRY SIDE Karaoke w/Kim-9
COZMIC PIZZA Aurora-9
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Bingo-8
EARL'S JUKE JOINT Paul's Blues Jam-7
JOGGER'S Texas Hold'em-7
ROCK 'N' RODEO Texas Hold'em-6:30
SAM BOND'S Bingo w/Tom Heini & Scott K.-9
SAMURAI DUCK Cinder Circus-10; Fire dancing
VILLAGE GREEN Eric Daquilanto-7; Soft alter-native

TUESDAY DEC. 18

BLACK FOREST Dream Date, Spencey Dude-10; Rock, pop
COUNTRY SIDE Karaoke w/Kim-9
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Open Mic-9
EARL'S JUKE JOINT Everybody's Jam w/James Goddard-7
GOODFELLAS Karaoke-9
HIGHLANDS PUB Bingo-6
JAZZ STATION Spirit of Jazz Jam-8
JOGGERS Karaoke-9
JOHN HENRY'S Get Fresh Tuesdays-10; Hip hop
LUCKEY'S Jesse Meade-10; Acoustic blues
MACHO'S PIZZA Family-friendly Karaoke-7
MAX'S e. geek's Knowledge Knights-7:30
MCSHANE'S Tricycle Races-9
THE O BAR Karaoke-9
PEABODY'S PUB Patrick & Giri-7:30; Acoustic rock
ROCK 'N' RODEO Texas Hold'em-6:30 iPod hip hop-9

SAM BOND'S Bluegrass jam-9
SAM'S PLACE Open Turntables-8
TABOO Phat Tuesday w/DJ Tekneek-10; Zydeco, Cajun, Creole
TAYLOR'S Karaoke-9:30
VILLAGE GREEN Jay Schlotterbeck-7; Jazz
WETLANDS Texas Hold'em-6

WEDNESDAY DEC. 19

AXE & FIDDLE Bingo-7:30
BLACK FOREST Four Trees-10; Hip hop
THE CITY Karaoke-9
COUNTRY SIDE QBN-9
COZMIC PIZZA Youth Open Mic-7
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Downtown Blues Band-8
EARL'S JUKE JOINT Acoustic jam w/Peter Giri & Buster B. Jones-8
JOGGER'S DJ Tino-10; Hip hop, R&B, dancehall
JOHN HENRY'S DJ Kal El vs. DJ Tekneek-10; Reggae vs. hip hop
LONE STAR DJ Tony-9
LUCKEY'S The Visible Men, Manis-10; Indie, jazz
LUNA Jazz jam-9
MAC'S AT THE VETS Thomas Kramer-6:30
MULLIGAN'S PUB Open mic-9
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY The Revolving Trio-8
PAPA'S SOUL FOOD KITCHEN Delta Blues Jam-9:30
QUACKERS Blues & Funk Jam-8:30
ROCK 'N' RODEO Karaoke w/Dan Henson-8
SAM BOND'S Jesse Meade, Chesapeake Blue-9; Americana
SAM'S PLACE Karaoke-8
TAP 'N' KEG Karaoke w/Rising Phoenix Productions-8
TAYLOR'S DJ Simy-10; Jazzy house, hip hop, disco
VILLAGE GREEN Olem Alves-7:30

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FR Initiation Trio-8
SA Paul Chenard Quartet-8
WE Lanham-Jones-8

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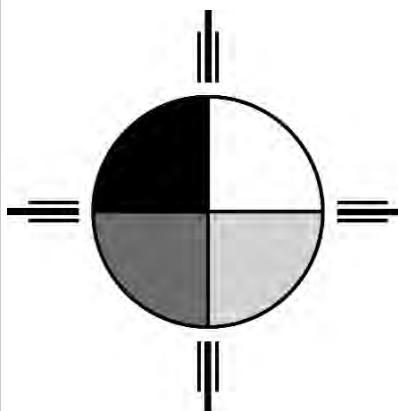
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BY RACHEL FOSTER



Last Hurrah

Camellias and other winter plants

I get a few questions every fall when camellias produce their improbably showy flowers. Aren't they a bit early, people ask? Well, no. Fall-blooming camellias (*Camellia sasanqua*) come out in October every year. Sometimes the show is cut short by an early freeze. This year, at least right here in town, the weather remained frost-free until mid-November, allowing us to get full value from the camellias and a couple of other broad-leaved evergreens — all of them excellent garden shrubs that just happen to bloom in autumn.

Camellias are certainly the grandest of these, with flowers in a variety of colors. White, apple-blossom pink-and-white, light pink and deep pink is the basic range. Some have double flowers a good two inches wide. Others are single, the flowers up to three inches across with a conspicuous cluster of yellow stamens. Late-blooming 'Yuletide' has deep red single flowers that are smaller than average but very abundant. A few varieties of *C. sasanqua* are lightly fragrant.

The plants vary in growth habit, too. Some are a little lax and mounding, while others (especially 'Yuletide') are boldly upright. None is quite as stiff and formal-looking, though, as spring-blooming *Camellia japonica*. Flowers on *C. sasanqua* are most prolific with at least half a day of sun, but the plants grow and bloom quite satisfactorily on a shady wall where most other plants would sulk. Some varieties are really easy to train on a wall or a trellis, and their moderate growth rate makes camellias a good choice for containers.

For serious October fragrance, nothing beats *Osmanthus heterophyllus* (holly osmanthus). The pure white flowers are tiny but numerous, and the scent will carry a long way on a warm fall afternoon. If you can, plant it somewhere sunny, where it will bloom abundantly and adopt a better form. Don't worry if a new plant fails to bloom: Flower production will increase as the plant matures.

There is nothing wrong with plain green holly osmanthus, but there are several varieties with distinctive foliage. The leaves of 'Purpureus' (which is said to be the hardiest cultivar) are maroon purple as they emerge, becoming dark green and lustrous. They show off the flowers nicely. 'Variegates' has leaves heavily marked with cream and is one of the best variegated evergreens for our area.

'Goshiki' has yellow-speckled leaves. All are relatively slow growers that can be controlled easily by pruning.

Strawberry tree (*Arbutus unedo*) is a close relative of madrone, but this popular compact form is much smaller. It is not as small as books and labels say, however, so don't expect it to stay below six feet forever! Strawberry tree will adapt to sun or shade and becomes quite picturesque in old age if left unpruned when the shreddy, red-brown bark becomes more visible. This is a workhorse of a plant that may go un-noticed until October, when the bell-shaped, ivory flowers appear in clusters similar to those of madrone. It often sports, at the same time, spherical scarlet fruits that spent a whole year ripening.

Camellia and osmanthus are excellent as hedging plants, and unlike the popular cherry laurel and Portugal laurel, they are not (as far as I know) invasive. Strawberry tree looks best as a single specimen or planted in small groups, and old ones look marvelous underplanted with hardy cyclamen and perhaps the beautiful variegated form of evergreen *Iris fetidissima* — both of which are, like strawberry tree, drought tolerant.

Winter jasmine (*Jasminum nudiflorum*) is an honorary evergreen. When the tiny leaves drop off in autumn the stems remain bright green. Thus it looks very much alive even before the bright yellow flowers appear. A hard frost can kill unopened buds, but the light freezes that are far more common in fall will damage only open flowers, leaving some buds to open over a period of many weeks. (My plants, like many others I know, bloom in November and December, but I'm told that some specimens don't bloom until after the new year.)

Most jasmines twine, but winter jasmine is a floppy shrub. It tolerates drought, neglect and a fair amount of shade. It is happy — and spectacular — sprawling over a bank or a retaining wall, but it is easy to train on a post, wall or trellis, where it takes up much less space. The flowers are scentless. You can't have everything. When you get back in the garden in early spring, cut off or shorten the stems that carried flowers. Prune as hard as you like: The long green shoots that grow during spring and summer will carry next winter's flowers.

EW

Rachel Foster of Eugene is a garden consultant and author of All About Gardens, a selection of past EW columns. She can be reached at rfoster@efn.org

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Legal Notices

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE Department of Probate CASE#50-07-23974 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS In the Matter of the ESTATE of Brian Fletcher Moats Deceased, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on November 15, 2007, Anna Wilczynska was appointed and deemed qualified to act as the personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present these claims, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice, as stated below to the personal representative, at 2586 W. 28th Avenue, Eugene, OR 97405, or sent to the personal representative, in care of Phillip M. Williams, Attorney, 132 E. Broadway, Ste. 731, Eugene, OR 97401 (541) 484-9566, or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceeding in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the attorney for the personal representative. DATED AND FIRST PUBLISHED: November 29, 2007.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE Department of Probate CASE#50-70-23975 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS In the Matter of the ESTATE of David Joseph Moats Deceased, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on November 15, 2007, Anna Wilczynska was appointed and deemed qualified to act as the personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present these claims, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice, as stated below to the personal representative, at 2586 W. 28th Avenue, Eugene, OR 97405, or sent to the personal representative, in care of Phillip M. Williams, Attorney, 132 E. Broadway, Ste. 731, Eugene, OR 97401 (541) 484-9566, or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceeding in this estate may obtain additional information

from the records of the attorney for the personal representative. DATED AND FIRST PUBLISHED: November 29, 2007.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE Department of Probate CASE#50-07-25697 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS In the Matter of the Estate of ALINA STEVENSON, deceased, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on December 3, 2007, Raymond F. Stokes was appointed and deemed qualified to act as the personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present these claims, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, as stated below to the personal representative at 2204 Lariat Dr, Eugene, OR 97401, or sent to the personal representative, in care of Richard Huhtanen, Attorney, 142 W. 8th Ave, Eugene, OR 97401 (541) 465-9112, or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative or the attorney for the personal representative. DATED AND FIRST PUBLISHED December 13, 2007.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE In the Matter of the Estate of ABLERT F. ERICKSON, Deceased. No. 50-07-23264 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Wanda L. Twomey has been appointed Personal Representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the undersigned Personal Representative, c/o Barbara K. Bower, Attorney for Personal Representative, P.O. Box 688, Junction City, Oregon 97448, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the Personal Representative or the attorney for the personal representative, Barbara K. Bower, Barbara K. Bower, P.C., P.O. Box 688, Junction City, OR 97448. DATED and first published December 6, 2007. BARBARA K. BOWER, P.C., Attorney for Personal Representative.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE, SUMMONS: B.J. JUSTICE, aka CHERYL HAINZ; aka CHERYL B.A. HAINZ, Plaintiff, vs. SCOTT E. JUSTICE, SUMMER JUSTICE and BARBARA L. HAINZ aka BARBARA LYNN SULLIVAN; BRANDY ELAINE SMITH; TERRY HAINZ TRUST (T.L. Hainz and Teresa Sullivan, Trustees); TERESA K. SULLIVAN aka TERESA LORRAINE SULLIVAN, aka KATHRYN SULLIVAN, aka KATHRYN T. SULLIVAN; aka T. KATHRYN SULLIVAN; aka TERESA KATHRYN SULLIVAN; aka TRISH SULLIVAN; aka KATHRYN SULLIVAN; aka TERESA L. SULLIVAN aka TERRY HAINZ; aka TERESA MOORE; aka T.L. HAINZ; aka TERESA BLANEY; and TERESA L. SULLIVAN; L. HAINZ, Trustee; BARBARA SMITH; TERESA SUMMERS; TERESA HALBERG; T. HAINZ; TERESA JOYNER; TERESA WERNER; TERRY SULLIVAN; L. HAINZ; ABANDON SHERRY JUSTICE; TERRY BLANEY; TERESA SULLIVAN; TERESA LORRAINE BLANEY; and SCOTT E. JUSTICE as Trustee for Kyle Justice and Chris Justice; and ALSO ALL OTHER PERSONS OR PARTIES UNKNOWN CLAIMING ANY RIGHT, TITLE, LIEN, OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT HEREIN. Defendants. Case No. 16-06-25242 TO: The defendants and also all persons or parties unknown claiming any right, title, lien, or interest in the property described in the First Amended Complaint herein. IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF OREGON: You are hereby required to appear and defend the First Amended Complaint filed against you in the above-entitled cause within 30 days from the date of first publication to this summons on you: and if you fail to appear and defend, the plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief demanded in the First Amended Complaint; NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: READ THESE PAPERS CAREFULLY You must "appear" in this case or the other side will win automatically. To "appear" you must file with the court a legal paper called a "motion" or "answer." The "motion" or "answer" must be given to the court clerk or administrator within 30 days of the date of first publication specified herein along with the required filing fee. It must be in proper form and have proof of service on the plaintiff's attorney or, if the plaintiff does not have an attorney, proof of service on the plaintiff. If you have any questions, you should see an attorney immediately. If you need help in finding an attorney, you may call the Oregon State Bar's Lawyer Referral Service at (503) 684-3763 or toll free in Oregon at (800) 452-7636. SUMMARY STATEMENT OF THE LAWSUIT 1. This action is

brought to quiet title in the plaintiff in certain parcel to real property located in Lane County, Oregon. The land at issue is described as follows: 25959 and 25963 Hall Road, Junction City, OR 97448. Parcel XI: Beginning at a point in the center of Hall County Road No 423, South 89° 36' 20" East 1227.35 feet from the 1 inch iron rod marking the Southwest corner of Section 8, Township 16 South, Range 5 West of Willamette Meridian said point being referenced by a 5/8 inch iron rod North 0° 57' East 30.00 feet; thence leaving the center of said Hall County Road N 0° 57' E 466.83 feet to a point marked by a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence S 89° 36' 25" E 712.91 feet to a point marked by a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence S 0° 07' 25" E 466.84 feet to a point in the center of said Hall County Road, said point being referenced by a 5/8 inch iron rod North 0° 07' 25" West 30.00 feet; thence along the center of said County Road N 89° 36' 20" W 721.66 feet to the point of beginning, in Lane County, Oregon. Plaintiff prays for a judgment declaring her to be the owner in fee simple of the above listed property declaring that the defendants have no right, title or interest in the property. The date of first publication of this summons is: December 6, 2007. Dan Armstrong, OSB #881517, PO Box 546, 582 NW Van Buren, Corvallis, OR 97330 (541) 754-7477.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY In the Matter of the Estate of GERTRUDE C. HIRT, Deceased. Case No: 50-07-25702 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS Notice is hereby given that Tyrrell Hirt Pierce, Robert M. Hirt and Martin W. Hirt have been appointed and have qualified as the Co-Personal Representatives of the estate. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present the same, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice, as stated below to the Personal Representative at: Tyrrell Hirt Pierce, Robert M. Hirt and Martin W. Hirt, c/o H. Thomas Evans, 750 Lawrence Street, Eugene, Oregon 97401, or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by these proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the Personal Representative, or the attorney for the Personal Representative. Dated and first published: December 13, 2007.

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Across

1 Oceanic
 5 Ray of "Smokin' Aces"
 11 Honey ____ (KFC sauce)
 14 Mouthy?
 15 To some degree
 16 Stephen of "The Crying Game"
 17 Work done as a team
 20 Gasteyer who played half of the "Delicious Dish" duo
 21 Object of Link's quest
 22 Hit by The Kinks
 23 Forehead dot
 25 Word after "slow" or "pressure"
 27 Redhead with freckles, on "South Park"
 32 Paris's administrative region
 34 Keanu's role in three films
 37 Indie rock band ____ Kiley
 38 Chicago Bears head coach Smith

39 Knock on the head
 40 "Without further ____"
 41 Formed some bonds
 43 Band with the 1996 album "Emperor Tomato Ketchup"
 44 Whatchamacallits...
 48 ...and whosihatsits
 51 It replaced the drachma
 52 Bachelors often cook it
 56 Auction set
 57 Showed something works
 61 Phanerozoic, currently
 62 Mexican shawl
 63 "Quebec" band
 64 Three-eighths of nine-teen?
 65 Ford cars in many song lyrics
 66 Big do?

Down

1 Student's language list, for short
 2 Rice-____
 3 Central Texas city

4 "Waterfalls" trio
 5 They used to be spent in Sorrento
 6 On a global scale: abbr.
 7 Page where readers write in
 8 Reveal noise
 9 Jailed Earth Liberation Front activist Arrow
 10 Bureau that added "Explosives" to its name in 2002: abbr.
 11 Babbling waterway
 12 "Uncle Miltie"
 13 Nation where Al Jazeera is headquartered
 18 Online publication
 19 "Alice" waitress
 24 She teamed with Eminem in 2000
 25 Famed Roman orator
 26 Praising poem
 28 Some black piano keys
 29 Eat away
 30 Dancer with a Cat in the Hat hat and pacifier, maybe

31 "Clue" weapon
 32 Author Levin
 33 Toilet seat component
 34 Atheism, in a way
 35 Maze goal
 36 Says yes to
 39 Throb
 41 Chinese restaurant taboo
 42 Of a pelvic bone
 44 Reservation abode
 45 Neighbor of Michigan
 46 Jeremy of "The Lion King"
 47 Last mo. with exactly 30 days
 49 Van driver, perhaps
 50 Shorthand writer
 52 Gilpin of "Frasier"
 53 From a remote location
 54 They patrol Fisherman's Wharf: abbr.
 55 Stands on the course
 58 Guinness Book suffix
 59 Coming-out honoree, for short
 60 It was bought out by American Airlines

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 For answers to this puzzle, call: 1-900-226-2800, 99 cents per minute. Must be 18+. Or to bill to your credit card, call: 1-800-655-6548. Reference puzzle #0337.

ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S JONESIN' CROSSWORD

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 DARWIN WTN KAZAN
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 POOR LAYS SLUR
 NEMO SOL TAB
 TOKE TROUPE ARE
 GUIDO DUB NORSE
 JTD NEURAL RTES
 FAM ESP RIAA
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¡ASK A MEXICAN!

BY GUSTAVO ARELLANO

Dear Mexican: I'm sad that there aren't more Mexicans here in the Detroit area. We're one of the few areas in the country that is predominately Catholic. We've welcomed wave after wave of Catholic immigrants for well over a hundred years, and they've intermingled and blended into our local society and culture. In the past, we've accepted the Irish, the Italians, the Poles, the Ukrainians, and the Chaldeans—all Catholic—and they've been welcomed into a local society that shares the same beliefs and underlying cultural values.

Additionally, we're a strong Blue state with values most of our mexicano friends would find intimately familiar. Despite all this, our metro area has the lowest population of Mexican-Americans in the entire Estados Unidos. Where's the love? – El Pulimento Irlandés Católico



Dear Polack-Mick Papist: Appreciate the amor, but gotta get your facts correcto. Though Metro Detroit's Mexican community is tiny (about five percent, according to the latest Census estimates), it's not the smallest such enclave of the 25 largest metropolitan areas in the United States—the St. Louis (2%), Pittsburgh (1.3%), Cincinnati (1.28%) and Baltimore (2.2%) areas all have smaller wab populations. But your point is well-taken, and prompted an epiphany from the Mexican. Gentle readers: consider the history of our great Republic. Think of the most-notorious immigrants groups (legal or not), the ones whom gabachos ridiculed for big families, booze binges, and propensity to commit crimes: Irish, Poles, Italians, Hungarians, Czechs and Mexicans. The common thread? Catholicism. Refry this hypothesis: most of the anti-Mexican sentiment is actually anti-Catholic sentiment, and it's a carryover from the still-unfinished war between Elizabethan England (white, English, Protestant) and Imperial Spain (Hispanic, Latin, Catholic) that rages for supremacy of the Americas. Manifest Destiny was just one volley in the battle, and Mexican mass migration is a logical flank maneuver in response. Call me crazy if you must, but it's a much more plausible conspiracy theory than, say, the NAFTA Super-Highway. And don't worry, Polack-Mick Papist: Mexicans are working their way to Detroit, one reconquista-ed town at a time.

I teach in Spanish and English to migrant students (young adults, mostly) who are getting ready to take the GED. I've learned about a lot more than just language in the last year and a half. We were talking about the concept of fairies the other day—or rather, I was, because my Mexican/Dominican/Guatemalan/Ecuadorian students had never heard about the concept before. In Northern European folklore, there are small magical folk who might help good people (children, specifically) with their chores, and might make it very difficult for bad people to get their work done. Is there anything similar in Mexican folklore? I thought maybe with the Mayan/Aztec influence, there might be something like fairies. – La Maestra

Dear Gabacha Teacher: Mexican folklore is vast, varies by region, and dependent a bit too much on the Devil and wailing women, but fairies and other non-midget phantasmagorical little people do enchant the Mexican mind. In the 1932 classic *The Magic and Mysteries of Mexico: Arcane Secrets and Occult Lore of the Ancient Mexicans and Maya*, famed folklorist Lewis Spence noted in hilariously antiquated fashion, "The fairy and her kind were as familiar to the Red man as to the White, for the excellent reason that throughout all his geographical ventures and peregrinations man has always been accompanied by these invisible playmates as well as by his gods and other more exalted tribal patrons." He identifies two types: the Tepictoton (whom helped farmers with their crops when causing desmadre) and the Cihuateteo, dead women whom cast diseases on children. "Like the fairies of Europe," Spence writes, "they were associated with the moon, and an examination of their pranks throws a strong comparative light upon European fairyhood." Not only that, but Mexico also believes in the world's greatest sprite: Juan Gabriel, the bronze contemporary to Elton John but with better hair, tunes and moves. ¡Al Noa Noa, JuanGa!

Gustavo Arellano is an investigative reporter on staff at the OC Weekly in Orange County, California. His "¡Ask a Mexican!" column began in 2004 and today is syndicated in 32 publications nationwide. He is also the author of a book by the same name. An extensive interview with Arellano can be found in the EW archives online for Nov. 29, 2007. Arellano can be contacted at TheMexican@AskAMexican.net

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					9	1		
	4			3	5			
	2	8						5
6		3				9		1
4						3	6	
			6	5			1	
		2	1					
			9	3				7

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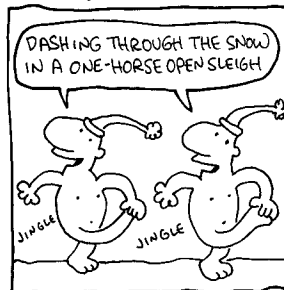
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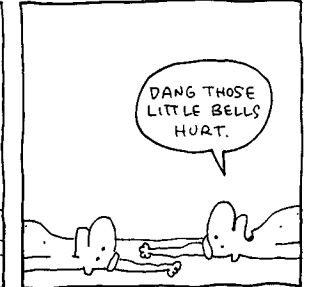
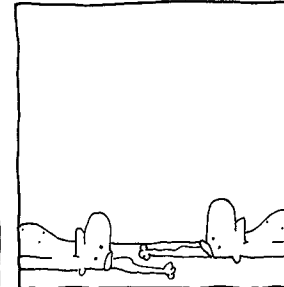
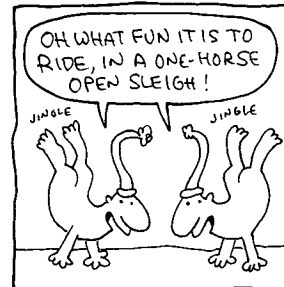
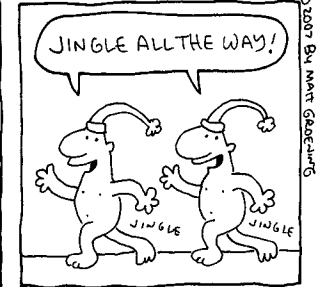
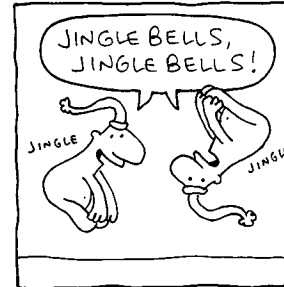
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DOGS WELCOME 1-2 br dt. pets \$550-750; 2 br UO pets \$700; 2-4 br N, pets \$725-1195; 3 br S, pets \$895-1200; 2-3 br Spfd. pets \$625-1150. NW Rental Svc. 606-9561.

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Brian was born here in Eugene, went to Pope Pius XII High School in Passaic, NJ, and came back to Oregon where he graduated with a B.S. in History from Southern Oregon University. He spent 1985 – 1987 with the US Peace Corps teaching math at Mahalapye Junior Secondary School in Botswana, and 5 years teaching English in Yotsukaido, Japan. He is married to Satoko (Tomizawa) Schartz and has been a Realtor in Eugene since 1996. Brian's other interests are chess, walking, and staying connected to Africa. We are delighted that he has joined our company! Email Brian at bcschartz@integra.net or call 541-912-9368.



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5'10" BUSTYBOMBSHEL

Where's Big Daddy! Well dressed, Attractive, Tall, Long Blondhaired, Green Eyed, Intelligent-10. Seeking 30-45, tall, financially secure. I love being pampered & like to please! So where is my SUGAR DADDY? ♣ 2452

MUTINY NEEDED

Nicer girl, Uofo, needs compassionate guy. SWF-concerts, coffee breaks. Am small, light haired, finishing classes in cognitive psych. above board and looking for a non-smoking guy 25-39. ♣ 2441

HELLO OUT THERE!

I am looking for a genuine, authentic, honest, employed man in his 50's. I can always spend time with me, but I would rather spend time with you. Drop me a line. Tell me about yourself. A photo would be nice. NS ND Write to blind box "Hello" ♣

AAA
Active, Attractive, Athletic- Youthful, SWF, HWP, Mid forty's, mom, honest, classy, fun, sense of humor, educated, professional, with a love for the outdoors, would like to meet a SWM with similar characteristics for possible LTR, NS ♣ 2364

DOWN TO EARTH

40 yr., seeking kind, adventurous friend for outdoor activities, live music and movies. ♣ 2359



NICE GUY SEEKING LADY
I'm 63 and retired, financially secure, seeking lady 50-60 for companionship. In good physical condition, 5'10, 176 lbs. Love travel & outdoors. I would love to meet you. Write blind box "Seeking Lady". ♣

NO INTERNET TYPING

Happy, honest, fit, 56, NS, ND. ISO F, 40-60. Spontaneous, independent, open-minded, honest heart. Lets explore our smiles, dreams, pleasures, travel & snorkle spaceship earth with a see and do it all spirit. ♣ 2453

LOOKING FOR FRIEND
SWM, 34, 5'10, athletic & easy going. looking for friend to hang out with, attend shows/ social events. I enjoy bike rides, leisure dining, live music and sharing. would like to meet anyone willing to share and have fun ♣ 2437

VEGAN ON THE COAST

Seeking partner for hiking/exploring the Oregon coast and the great northwest. 5'7, 160, witty, fun, humorous, adventurous, Scrabble, movies, photography. You? Friends first, possible LTR. ♣ 2436

MISFIT SEEKS SAME

I have looks, brains, a house, and I don't fit in anywhere. Perhaps you feel the same way? Maybe we fit together? 40ish, healthy, non-smoker, creative type, etc....Ask and I will tell. ♣ 2434

ISO LTR

SWM, NS, seeks compassionate woman 30-50 to share life in an open heart space. Well educated, progressive, over traveled, kids a plus. Looking to create a LTR in a safe emotionally growing space. ♣ 2420

DEEPER EXPLORATIONS

Beyond the hiking, beach, Bijou, wine and dancing all EW women seem to, are there still HWP women 30-50 (mothers especially welcome) who want deeper conscious connection on all levels? ♣ 2419

FUN GRANDPA

SWM, 54, lives at the beach, likes the mountains too, loves to fish & crab, cook & garden, enjoys a glass of wine. Seeking single woman with similar interests. ♣ 2414

ISO A WIFE

Looking for a wife that can have a child. I believe that I can care for a wife very well. I have a state of mind that is called legitimacy. ♣ 2413

SHOW ME THE ROPES

Hot SM 40 ISO hot horse-loving women 25-45 who can show me the ropes on a part time bases. I am very interested in finding you. ♣ 2411

SEX & INTIMACY

SWM 44 ISO lovely woman who is 30-45 in shape, well-groomed and knows the difference between sex and intimacy and likes both. ♣ 2410

MARATHON MAN

Handsome, 5'8, 140 lbs, 45 yo, well endowed marathon man. ISO: cute, playful, sexually aggressive women 35-55, 150-190 lbs with alot of spare time. Safe, clean. Not seeking LTR. ♣ 2404

SALSA PARTNER

I'm looking for a Salsa dance partner to practice with, 18 to 40, willing to learn with me. ♣ 2402

DEXTER SKI CLUB

Single male 43 seeks unattached tree skiing tele buddy to assist with trail planning/grooming at new local ski area. ♣ 2369

FIND IT

ISO fit, ALIVE, playful women or couple for potluck, playing or listening to music, hot tub, group/single massage. Goal is to create safe, playful quality experience. Questions? ♣ 2226

FREEDOM IN REACH

23 yo convict with hard body, good looks and tattoos. Am fun, spirited and deep souled. Seeking a woman's correspondence to secure relationship before parole. Write to blind box "Freedom". ♣



BI WOMEN'S GROUP

Meets the third Friday of every month at 7:00 pm. Call for more details. Please No Men/TG/TS. ♣ 2062



NICE GUY

Meet someone open-oriented. ♣ 2225



JESSE @ GOOD TIMES

Friday December 7th. I was sitting on the deck, you were playing pool. You said my shoes looked made for dancing. You left before I could give you my number. Get ahold of me. Jen ♣ 2458

CAFE ROMA

friday afternoon- you were inside studying, cute girl, blonde hair with hat, i walked by with a friend, brief eye contact, I was too busy to say hi, single? coffee? ♣ 2455

LUCKEYS 11/25

Rassi, I forgot to give you my number. We got along so great and I want to know you. Please get in touch and don't believe your brothers gossip. Jeannine ♣ 2456

FOXY LIBRARIAN

You: Getting off the plane, smart, saucy, super sexy. Never looked so sweet. Me: smitten, slowly composing liberotica. I'll be your book of the month; please read a thousand pages. ♣ 2454

SPENCERS BUTTE

Met your puppy Eastwood but couldn't take eyes off owner..Do you play well with others? ♣ 2451

BLOND GODDESS

I watched you celebrate your birthday at BJ's on 12/4. You become more beautiful every year.

VOL. IN MEDICINE

12/3 You: volunteer dark hair, yellow blouse, red stethoscope. Me: green shirt, OSU hat, blood draw. Talked about blood and movies. Single? Movie? Coffee? More talk? Go ahead, call. ♣ 2447

IS ACCIDENT NOV 25

I helped Joan after her Nissan was scalped under jackknifed semi truck in the fog 5am Sun Nov 25. Cant stop thinking about her-she was taken to Sacred Heart with fractured skull. Does anyone know her or anything? ♣ 2446

LOST MY RAIN GEAR!

Did you find my basic (grimy) yellow rain jacket and black pants on 13th Street 12/05? Want to give them back? Contact me. Small reward. ♣ 2445

LOST MY HAT

Monday around 1:00 at either Roma or Sakura. Green wool/felt, parallel stitching on the bill, by Hat People. Sentimental value. Happily pay the cost of ad response. ♣ 2444

JOHN HENRY'S

Hottie boy bartender @ John Henry's Saturday 12/1. Oh my you were fun to watch last night. What else are you fun at? ♣ 2440

THE KIVA 11/30

You were looking for smaller garlic and my friend helped. Your smile has been haunting me and I'm kicking myself for not talking to you. Coffee or drinks? ♣ 2438

HABITAT FUNDRAISER

Me: tall with red cap. At the Habitat for Humanity fundraiser you stopped to admire my lamp, but we didn't have time to light it up together. ♣ 2418

LADY JENNIFER!

Milady! Upon our acquaintance Thou gavest me a Hambo and a Contra, and t'were grand! Yet the twin sufficeth not! Pray, couldst, wouldst come again and grant thine humble servant yet another dance? L'homme a la fleur. ♣ 2416

DRS. CHAMPER/KARTH

Back to back appts. on Monday, mid afternoon. We smiled, said hello couple of times. You good looking in your turtleneck and gray cords. Was that you on 2W Oak St. garage two days later? Could only see black silhouette against light sky background. Coffee? ♣ 2415

BOOK STOLEN

You stole my author signed "sci-fi" book...my notes won't help you understand the truth. I'm looking for you to make this right. ♣ 2409

free will astrology

BY ROB BREZSNY

ARIES (March 21-April 19): "Everything absolute belongs to pathology. Joyous distrust is a sign of health." So proclaimed Friedrich Nietzsche. Note well that he used the adjective "joyous" to describe distrust, not "cynical" or "grumbling" or "sour." The key to remaining vital and strong while questioning every so-called absolute is to cultivate a cheerful, buoyant mood as you do it. That's one of your top assignments in the coming weeks, Aries: Practice joyous distrust.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Here are the best and most enjoyable ways to capitalize on your current astrological omens: (1) Transform one of your so-called liabilities into at least a temporary asset; (2) lose any attachment you have to pleasures and rewards that won't mean much to you a year from now; (3) allow and even invite people to show you how you can get smarter; (4) compassionately identify the limits of the people you care about; (5) squeeze every last lesson out of what you're leaving behind.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): In *Big Russ and Me*, a memoir about growing up, journalist Tim Russert writes a lot about what he learned from his father. Here's one story: Whenever a family member accidentally broke some glass, his dad took extraordinary precautions wrapping up the shards in a sealed box before depositing them in the trash can. Why? Because he wanted to be sure the garbagemen wouldn't cut their hands. I urge you to be that conscientious in the coming week, Gemini. Imagine in detail the impact your actions might have on all the people, both known and unknown, whose lives you touch. The gods will reward you for doing so.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Are your cohorts looking at you quizzically, wondering why you seem so energized from exploring the shadowy, off-limits places? I'll offer some suggestions about what you could say to them. First, try to make them see that until you've risked going too far, you may not know when to stop. Second, tell them that you suspect there are healthy desires buried at the roots of your dark feelings, and you're hoping to free them. Third, explain to them that you're not picking at your scabs in order to prolong your hurt, but rather to better understand the hurt. If those rationales are too subtle for your companions to understand, cackle softly and say that you just need to be a little bad in order to give your goodness more soul.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): A lightning bolt is hot, fast and potent. It can travel at 100,000 mph, reach temperature of 60,000 degrees Fahrenheit, and generate enough energy to illuminate a light bulb for two months. And yet it's usually no more than an inch in diameter. This is an apt metaphor for the kind of highly concentrated power you will have available in the coming days, Leo: deceptively petite in proportion to its enormous wallop. Please use it wisely.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): At Free Will Astrology, we love to turn things upside-down and inside-out every now and then. It keeps our mental hygiene sparkling clean, and yours, too. This week, in order to incite a purifying ruckus, we're offering you a challenge from psychologist James Hillman. Please suck the following thoughts into the deepest recesses of your understanding, and enjoy the brainstorms they detonate: "By accepting the idea that you are the effect of a subtle buffeting between hereditary and societal forces, you reduce yourself to a result. The more your life is accounted for by what already occurred in your chromosomes, by what your parents did or didn't do, and by your early years now long past, the more your biography is the story of a victim." What I'm trying to tell you, Virgo, is that it's a fine time to rebel against your genetic heritage, your upbringing, and your conditioning. Imagine a life for yourself in which you don't believe that those factors control what you're capable of.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): It's the Season of Returns and Recoveries, Libra. You will generate good fortune if you look for what you lost. Here are some suggestions on how to proceed: Recall important memories you've almost forgotten, retrieve any valuable things you rashly threw away, and bushwhack your way back to a promising path you strayed from. For best results, you should forgive yourself of any mistakes you think you made that led to the loss.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): For reasons too silly to go into here (involving romance, of course), I once spent six months making thrice-weekly three-and-a-half-hour roundtrips from Chapel Hill, NC to Columbia, SC. The back roads I drove on were sparsely traveled and my ancient pick-up truck didn't have a radio, so I passed the time by reading. I became quite skilled at continually darting my eyes back and forth between the road and the open book resting on my steering wheel. In this way I got through James Joyce's *Ulysses*, Leo Tolstoy's *Anna Karenina*, and Thomas Mann's *Magic Mountain*. I don't advise you to try something so dangerous, Scorpio, but I do believe it's a perfect astrological moment for you to master the art of slipping back and forth between two starkly different realities.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): A group of us decided to throw a party. The Sagittarian among us, Rosa, insisted on being in charge of supplying the desserts. She feared that if anyone else handled this task, there wouldn't be enough, and they wouldn't be sweet enough or rich enough or decadent enough. To make sure the delectable treats were available in rapturous abundance, she felt she could only trust herself. In this spirit, I appoint you to be the sweet, rich, decadent dessert-provider for the entire world in the coming weeks. I'm using "desserts" in both the literal and metaphorical senses.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Among modern Baghdad's most prominent architectural features are its blast walls. These omnipresent concrete barriers shield buildings from truck bombs and random gunfire. They were nothing but oppressive eyesores up until a few months ago, when a team of 40 artists began covering them with brightly colored murals that depict idyllic landscapes and glorious scenes from Iraqi history. Your next assignment, Capricorn, is to try an equivalent conversion. Add beauty to something ugly; bring a light touch and a creative spirit to a troublesome situation; dress up your defense mechanisms in silk and gold.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Let's meditate on events that have an impact at a great distance from their origins. For instance, African dust reaches Florida, raising pollution levels, just as particulate matter from China floats over to sully California's skies. Here's another example: The CIA played a major role in overthrowing the democratically elected prime minister of Iran in 1953, and this is still wreaking chaos on the current relationship between the U.S. and Iran. In the coming week, Aquarius, I predict your life will provide another example of this theme, although in your case the long-range influence is likely to be far more benign than the other cases I cited – possibly even downright benevolent.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): "Open your minds, sweethearts," begins the soothing rant of enlightenment advisor Dvorah Adler (Dvorahji.com). "Take a deep breath in and a deep breath out. It's time for you to hear the big secret of the ages, the radical truth of truths that only the wisest gurus and avatars and grandmothers are brave enough to reveal. Are you ready? Here it is: 'SHUT UP AND BE HAPPY!'" I'm pleased to convey Dvorah's ancient truth to you, Pisces, because it's what you need to hear right now. So please, darlings: Shout, whisper, or sing "SHUT UP!" to all the voices in your head that are so addicted to saying "What am I doing wrong?", "When will I finally be happy?", and "Why can't everything be perfect forever?" The fact is, you are exactly where you need to be, and everything is proceeding with mysterious grace.

HOMEWORK: Forget what *Time* magazine thinks. Who is your "Person of the Year?" Tell me at FreeWillAstrology.com; click on "Email Rob."

Go to **RealAstrology.com**
to check out Rob Brezsnys

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Abbreviations: **A** Asian • **B** Black • **Bi** Bisexual • **C** Couple • **Ch** Christian • **D** Divorced • **F** Female • **G** Gay • **H** Hispanic
HWP Height/ Weight proportionate • **J** Jewish • **M** Male • **NA** No alcohol • **NAm** Native American • **ND** No drugs • **NS** No smoking
P Professional • **S** Single • **W** White • **Wi** Widowed • **ISO** In search of • **LTR** Long-term relationship

Participants in *Eugene Weekly* Personals must be 18 years or older. To ensure your safety, carefully screen all responses. First meetings should occur in a public place and participants should not divulge addresses. *Eugene Weekly* does not screen or investigate individuals who place or respond to personals ads and makes no representation as to the character of these individuals. *Eugene Weekly* will not be responsible for the consequences of any interaction. Not all voice boxes contain voice greetings.

A LOVELY LADY

I saw you @ the U of O Education bldg 11/19/07. Astounding smile and laugh, blonde hair up, jeans and Uggs boots w/ a blue backpack. Do you like wine? Call me, sexy-pants! ☎ 2408

SUNDAY AT MARKET

You: Cute sys w/ orange & black sack. Dropped your beanie leaving Holiday Hall. Me: Black bob w/ bangs. Diablos Friday for Roller Derby? ☎ 2407

LOST CREEK BRIDGE

Fellow McKenzie River hiker. Met at Lost Creek. You were Belknap bound with two friends. I can't believe I didn't ask your name or number. Interested in coffee or lunch? Later hikes? ☎ 2405



TBBW

I've walked as slow as I could and rested a couple of times in the bushes so I could see those big ears and eyes that you have. LRRH

COME AS YOU ARE

Weirdling because I believe in miracles you sexy thang! Beginning your 25th dance around the sun with a beautiful new smile! My gosh I fall in love with you again and again! Thank you Mother Goddess for bringing this Beautiful Angel into my life! Co-resplendent forever. I love you, su Genio

ONE SLIP PLEASE

Daddy, Help me. Want you to come get me. Why did you send me away? You told me to wait, and I will, but for how long? How will I know? Ur BB Girl ☎ 2412

ERIKA JEAN

You are a wonderful wife. I love you. Triz



PLAYMATE WANTED

Seeking lady friend for hubby, he's tall handsome, kind and lots of fun..please no questions.. ☎ 2449

SICK OF PORTLAND

Liberal bicycling punk rocker seeks contacts and info about living in Eugene. I am very interested in moving there by summer 2009! Clue me in please... ☎ 2443

BEST FRIEND?

Funny girl who loves wine and cheese, is seeking new best friend, for dancing, movies, and fun! Must have open mind! ☎ 2435

PRINCESS

Got your note call me. Love Skypilot. ☎ 2417



BI-MALE SEEKS FUN

Single professional male early 60s seeks bi-singles and/or couples for evenings/weekends of pleasure in a safe, clean environment. ☎ 2457

WELL HUNG

Wife stopped giving you head? Handsome attached man 40 ISO clean, fit, well hung, groomed married man who is interested in part time oral release. Remember well hung! ☎ 2448

FEMALE SEEKS BDSM

25 yr old female seeks BDSM partner. any gender, any sexuality. 23-35. experienced or not. emotional stability & respect a must. no intercourse. leave message w/ e-mail, zodiac sign. ☎ 2442

BORED ARTIST

been out of town awhile, would like some sexual adventure, some new friends, whatever. whatever. I'm tattooed swm hwp std free. ☎ 2439

A.N.R. / A.B.F

Adult nursing relationship wtd. What's that? Google it. Seeking someone with brains, calmness & curves. I have lots of good qualities, & talented lips. Tell you more. e-mail? phone? ☎ 2433

DO YOU SWING

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FUN LOVIN

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KINK-A-HOLIC

Dan Savage ain't got nothin on me. Ready to twist your kiddles in more ways than a Chinese buffet. Ladies? Gents? More than enough parts for each of you. ☎ 2362



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Savage Love

WORDS OF PURE WISDOM by Dan Savage



My two roommates are in the same frat. Roommate A and his GF have been going out for about a year. Roommate A is a great guy, but maybe a bit too nice: Recently, his GF cheated on him and he forgave her. Her infidelity did not come as a surprise to the rest of us. When she's drunk, she acts inappropriately. She gets touchy and says suggestive things—it's way beyond friendly flirting.

Anyway, Roommate B came into my room the other night and confessed that, a week or so before Roommate A's GF cheated on him, she propositioned another member of his fraternity—let's call him OG (Other Guy)—while Roommate A was away. Before she started going out with Roommate A, GF and OG fucked. So she ran into OG that night and flat-out told OG that she wanted to fuck him. OG refused, to his credit, and relayed the story to Roommate B, but swore him to secrecy.

Is it my place to tell Roommate A about his GF's behavior? I don't know OG well enough to tell him to tell Roommate A, and Roommate B won't tell Roommate A. Everyone agrees that it's a fucked-up situation. I mean, no one really knows how many times GF has fucked around on my roommate. What's your take?

Friend Really Over Strumpet's Treachery

All you've got, FROST, is hearsay—what Roommate B told you about what OG told him about Roommate A's GF—and hearsay isn't admissible in court. But this isn't a trial, it's a friendship, and sometimes friendship requires us to pass along hearsay and/or highly credible gossip.

What's that lovely saying that sometimes drops from the oh-so-fuckable mouths of frat boys? Oh, yes: *Bros before hos*. Usually I find that phrase offensive and misogynistic, FROST, but in this instance it applies.

Tell Roommate A what you know. If his GF is making passes at everything on campus with a cock, Roommate A has a right to know for his own health and safety. His GF also needs to learn a valuable lesson: She's got to set up her cheatin' game—fuck people outside of her boyfriend's social circle, for starters—if she intends to cheat on all the men she's with over the course of her life. Getting her ass dumped for sloppy technique in college will help her get her cheating act together by the time she marries some poor bastard.

And finally, FROST, there's a chance—an outside one—that Roommate A already knows and doesn't care, either because he and GF have an open relationship or he's turned on by his girlfriend "cheating" on him. If Roommate A doesn't dump his GF after you break the news, FROST, you're not obligated to inform him about any other trouble his GF gets into. Rest assured, she's telling him all about it while he fucks her senseless.

I'm in my mid-20s and recently started sleeping with a coworker who is in his late 40s. The sex is incredibly hot, but last time I spontaneously called him "Daddy," and then he started in with "You've been a very bad girl" stuff—and it really turned us on. Afterward, we were a little freaked by the idea that we were basically evoking the image of a father abusing his daughter. Is this as creepy as it seems?

Phreaked In Phoenix

The power imbalance built into an affair with a much older coworker weighed on both your minds until—ta da!—out popped daddy/girl stuff while you were fucking. So do you want to fuck your actual dad now, PIP? Does he want to fuck his actual daughters, if he has any? If the answer to both these questions is "no," then this isn't a problem. Remember, PIP: He's not *your* daddy; he's a daddy.

For four years I've been dating a gal who is freaking amazing in almost every way. The other 10 percent of the time she's the worst human I've ever met: super-violent, super-dishonest. (She tells our friends that I beat her to cover up for her violence toward me!) I've tried communicating, but she gets angry if I try to talk about it. I know I can either accept it or break up with her, but I was hoping you'd have a better answer. Any ideas? She's far superior to most humans I've met in every other regard and I want to spend the rest of my life with her.

Sick Of Getting Beaten Up

Break up with her *now*, SOGBU. Or, fuck, spend the rest of your life with this monster if she's that wonderfuckingful—but go in with both (black) eyes open. Being with her means being abused. You would be a fool to stay with her, under the circumstances. But it's your call, fool.

Oh, and a woman who will tell your friends that you beat her will one day tell the same lie to the police, SOGBU. Just so you know.

A while back, I discovered my fiancé was having an affair, so we broke up. Maybe I should have laid down specific ground rules when we got back together, but I still felt betrayed when I found out that he was in regular contact with the Other Woman. I avoid social gatherings that I know the Other Woman will be at, but my fiancé goes without me. He knows I hate it, but he guilties me about not trusting him. I've even seen her name in his e-mail inbox. (I wasn't deliberately spying—we share the same computer.) Am I wrong to feel insecure or is my fiancé being insensitive?

Going On Paranoid

Your fiancé cheated, GOP, so the onus is on him to avoid, within reason, doing things that make you feel insecure. Hanging out with the OW, e-mailing the OW, chatting with the OW at parties—he shouldn't be doing any of that crap out of simple consideration for your feelings. If you're going to marry him, you have to forgive him and trust him. But he has to avoid doing things that give you more cause to mistrust him than he's given you already.

And, finally, he has the nerve to guilt *you*? He sounds like a manipulative, selfish jerk, GOP—which are the warning signs of a habitual, serial cheater. Are you sure you wanna marry this douche?

Your recent columns about men, women, weight, attraction, and honesty were incredible. As a strong feminist, I know women overwhelmingly bear the brunt of sexism in our society, but I feel that the ways that sexism affects men, and how this code is maintained by social relationships between other men as well as women, are often marginalized. Sexism affects us all in some way and this week's column did a nail-on-the-head job showcasing how all men are negatively affected by sexist patterns. Understanding and accounting for gendered interactions between all people helps undermine patriarchy because the roles we as a society impose on one of the two hegemonic sexes are diametrically opposed in the other. Great job.

Feminism Is Great Healthy Thought

I don't know what the fuck you're talking about, FIGHT, but thanks for sharing. For more letters about men, women, weight, attraction, and honesty go to www.thestranger.com/savage/hard2.

Download *Savage Lovecast* (my weekly podcast) every Tuesday at www.thestranger.com/savage.mail@savagelove.net

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